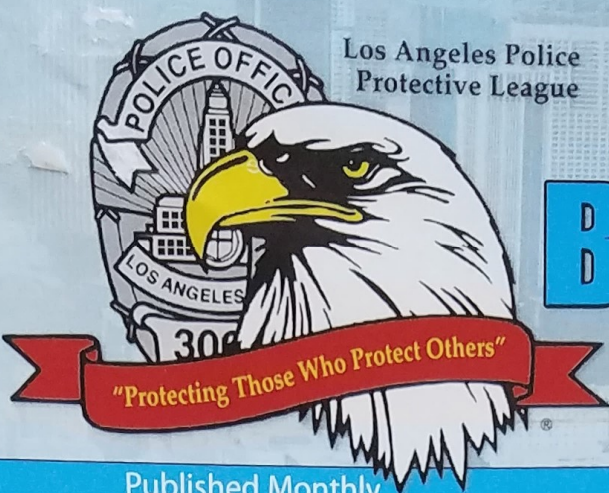


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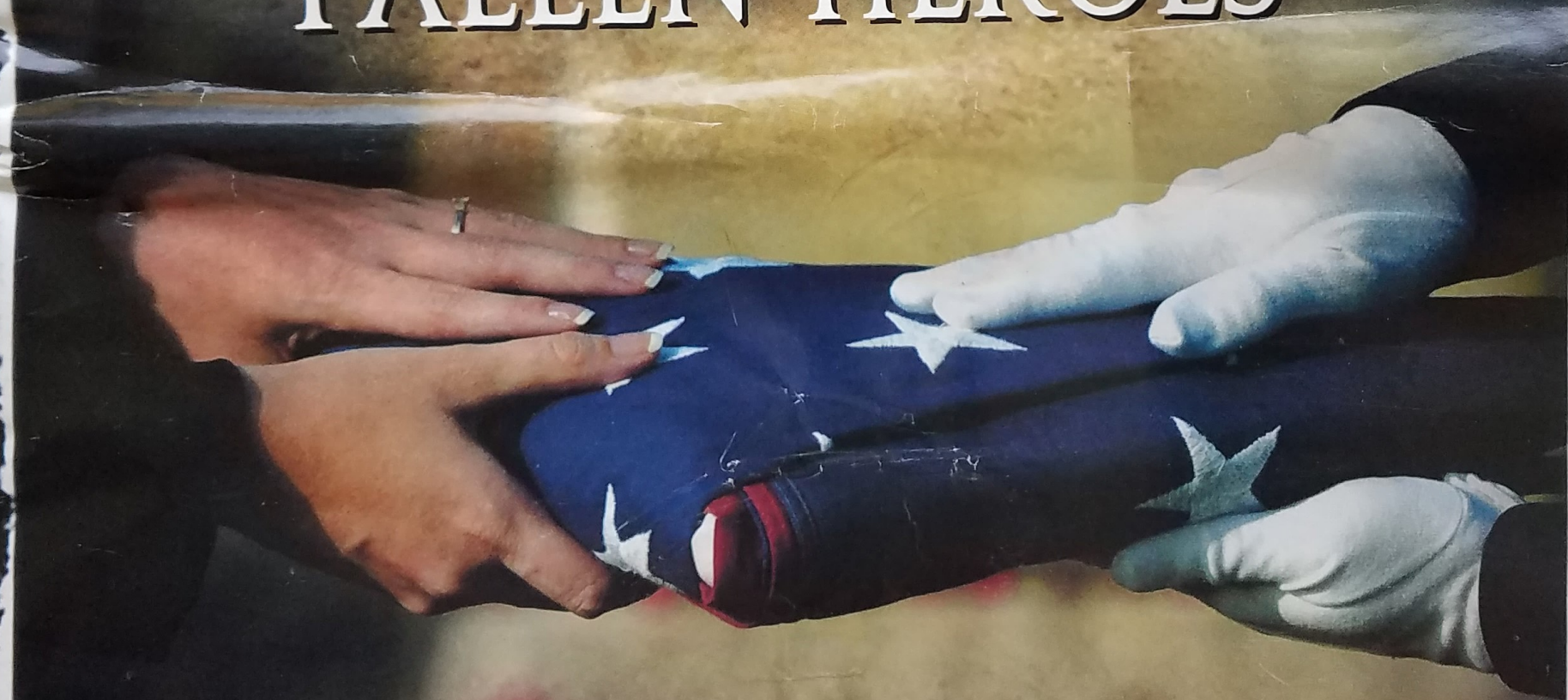
The Thin
Blue Line

Vol. 60, No. 4

Published Monthly

April, 2005

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Arresting the State's Budget Burglars

Detective BOB BAKER, President



As police officers, we are accustomed to battling the bad guys who refuse to do the right thing – we knew and expected this when we signed up for the job. Now, however, we are being forced into a battle that we didn't choose and we shouldn't have to fight. This battle is the absurd pension proposal by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. This fight will directly affect every one of us involved in public safety work in the City of Los Angeles, now and in the future.

Governor Schwarzenegger's new pension scheme is based on the "simple" notion that the defined benefit plans (pensions) promised to public employees are too expensive and should be replaced by a defined contribution plan. But, as is often the case, a "simple" solution is not so simple. Or, in this case, it is far more expensive than the existing system.

The legislation and the initiative will require all public service employees, including City sworn employees, hired on or after July 1, 2007, to join only a defined contribution retirement plan. In addition, current sworn City employees will be given six months to transfer into the new defined contribution plan.

The City contribution for police officers and firefighters cannot exceed 4.5% of base salary without a qualified matching employee contribution (and/or) shall be at least one employee dollar for every two City dollars. This City maximum contribution limit is increased to 9% if the police officer or firefighter is contributing to at least 4.5%. The maximum limits may be further increased by 3% if the employee is not participating in Social Security.

Some of you might think this doesn't concern you. After all, the changes are not supposed to go into effect until 2007, and only apply to future officers.

Similarly, the investment philosophy of the retirement system will have to change. About 70% of all money in the system comes from investment returns, with the remainder made up of employer and employee contributions. With the system "closed" and no new money or employees coming in, the ability to make long-term investments will decrease. The system will have to have more cash on hand to ensure it can pay benefits, as opposed to investing that money long term. The result of going to shorter investments means a decrease in the return on the money invested. That decrease has to be made up by the City. Once again, the money spent on the retirement system means less money available for raises, health benefits and overtime.

Northridge Assemblyman Keith Richman (the prime sponsor of this legislation) and Schwarzenegger know that their current plan will not save money, but will actually cost state and local governments many billions of dollars over

the next 10-15 years.

They know the only way to actually save money is to take retirement benefits away from YOU. It was no surprise that with the ink not even dry on this proposal, Richman started attacking pension benefits for current employees, even though this proposal hasn't even made it to the ballot or passed. Several weeks ago, he proposed changing the calculation of the basis for state employees from their last one year of service to the last three years. Never mind that state employees bargained for this benefit years ago in exchange for several years of no pay raises. This was the first step in his campaign to take benefits away from current workers.

The governor's proposal is not only costly; it is fundamentally dishonest and morally reprehensible. The alleged savings from this plan are not based on an apple-to-apple comparison to our current plan. The new plan specifically does not provide for death benefits or disability benefits. That means that all officers hired after 2007 will have **NO BENEFITS** if they become disabled in the line of duty. Their families will get **NO PENSION SURVIVOR** benefits if they are killed in the line of duty. As far as pension benefits are concerned, if killed, their families will get a "thank you" and whatever dollars they managed to save in the retirement accounts. If an officer becomes disabled, he will be shown the door and given the keys to his retirement account, from which he cannot collect until age 59 1/2 – period.

The potential effects on the City Police and Fire pension fund are enormous. Consider a few of these facts:

- The City and sworn employee unions negotiate the provisions of the current DB retirement plan. As a result, the City has the flexibility to customize its compensation and benefit structure to best address the City's recruitment and retention needs as well as the needs of its police officers and firefighters. In addition, the terms of the DB plan can be tailored to address the City's financial condition on both a short and long-term basis. Mandating a DC plan and its structure will completely eliminate this flexibility. Plan design control will be removed from the City and placed in the State legislature.
- All public agencies within the State will have the same pension plan. The City will have to find other inducements to attract new police officer and firefighter recruits; most likely higher salaries and/or other more costly supplemental benefit plans.
- The legislation only proposes to close the current DB plan to new police officers and firefighters, not terminate it completely. As a result, the City will be required to maintain and fund simultaneously two separate

police/firefighter retirement plans. The funding requirement for the current DB plan will extend for several decades into the future. If enrollment is closed as of June 30, 2007, and the provisions of Tier 5 remain in effect, June 30, 2040, will be the first year that the last of the DB plan members will be eligible to retire at full benefits. In addition, fire and police pension obligations due to its survivor benefits carry well beyond the life of its retirees.

- Future police officer and firefighter contributions to the DB plan would be steadily reduced resulting in assets available for investment. Decreased earnings will result in higher City contributions to the DB plan.
- Decreased employee contributions combined with an ever shrinking DB asset pool to cover plan liabilities may result in a Net Pension Obligation (NPO). Government Accounting Standards Board No. 27 requires a NPO to be reported in the City's Consolidated Annual Financial Report. Inclusion of an NPO could have a detrimental impact on the City's bond ratings.
- The current DB plan pays administrative and investment expenses out of plan assets. As the DB plan closes down, the City will have to pay an increasing proportion of these expenses until the asset pool is so small that the City will, once again, be required to pay all administrative and investment expenses of the old DB plan.
- Most DC plans have self-directed employee retirement accounts. Private sector DC plans either provide employee investment training in-house or through a contractor to enable the plan member to understand and make informed investment decisions. The Fire and Police DC plan may have to offer this training as part of its fiduciary responsibility to the DC plan members.
- The portability aspect of a DC plan allows an employee to withdraw both the City and employee contributions with interest and "buy into" another DC retirement plan in another public agency. As a result, the Los Angeles Fire and Police Departments may become the State's "training facility" as new police officers and firefighters receive their training in Los Angeles

and then go to work at other public safety agencies in more desirable locations.

- The City's contribution to a DC plan is fixed at a specific level and contributions are credited to individual investment accounts. As a result, the City will not be able to reap the benefits resulting from market up cycles that generate increased returns on pension fund assets or other actuarial gains that would reduce City contributions to a DB plan.

When confronted on this issue, the disgustingly weak-kneed reply of the governor's finance director was that the future officers could buy their own death and disability policy if they thought it important!

Not only is this horrible public policy, it will have an effect on you. One can only imagine future negotiations with the City, with one group of officers with retirement benefits and the other with no retirement, death or disability benefits. Care to guess how many times the City will tell the group with benefits (that means you) that they don't need a raise because they have a pension benefit when they retire?

The proposed new pension system threatens the financial security of law enforcement and will make it difficult to attract and retain current officers. The governor is calling on public servants to carry the burden of a fiscally irresponsible government. His proposal disregards the integrity and valor of our profession. The governor wants us to make sacrifices for naught. Officers understand the risks and sacrifices we make everyday, but to sacrifice our families' emotional and financial security for political artifice is an outrage.

We encourage you to educate family, friends and voters on the governor's reckless and callous plan. We must tell the governor that his plan is a hard slap in the face to the brave guardians of our City.

In the coming weeks and months, we will let you know how you can help us in our fight, and inform you of the actions we as the LAPPL are doing on your behalf. More importantly, we need to ensure that California doesn't shirk its civic responsibility and turn its back on us. Schwarzenegger's plan doesn't just put the safety of our fellow officers in danger, but rather the safety of an entire state.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

League's Legal Plan Open Enrollment
Tim Sands Page 4

Why Engage?
Paul M. Weber Page 6

Department Sensitivity
Luther Lutz Page 10

Police Union Challenges Governor on Pension Claim

Police Work is not Always a Pretty Business

LAPPL Editorial Section Center Pages 38-39

Political Frontline..... 21

Letters to the Editor..... 22

Commendable Copper

Capers 27

For Your Information..... 28

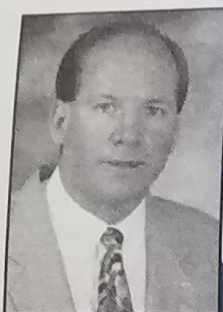
Veteran's Corner..... 41

Divisionals 42

Sports 54

Retirement..... 57

Classifieds..... 61



Protecting Your Rights

Police Officer TIM SANDS, Vice President



New Benefits to League's Legal Plan

In April, 2005, we will have an open enrollment for the League's Legal Plan. We have recently added new benefits to our legal plan that make it far and away better than any other police association's legal plan protection.

There will be no increase in the cost of the League's Legal Plan. We will be adding additional representation and increasing the reimbursement of suspended days. The comparison chart below shows the comparison of the old

legal plan to the new plan. I highly encourage all members to enroll, for you and your family's protection. Should you have any questions, please call the Legal Department at 1-866-LAPPL4U (1-866-527-7548).

Note: If you are a current member of the LAPPL Legal Plan, you need to do nothing to receive the additional benefits. If you are not a member, we will be mailing you an enrollment form so that you can add this critical protection for you and your family.

Added Benefits to the Enhanced Legal Plan

Type	Old Plan	New Plan
AD Advice on Discipline	Enhanced Legal Plan members are given a one hour consultation with an attorney regarding a disciplinary issue for advice and to determine if an attorney should be present at the interview under Claims Unit guidelines.	No changes.
RP Attorney Representation at a personnel complaint interview.	Enhanced Legal Plan members receive attorney representation at the personnel complaint interview under Claims Unit guidelines.	No changes.
SK Attorney assistance with a Skelly Response.	Enhanced Legal Plan members receive attorney assistance with a Skelly Response under Claims Unit guidelines.	No changes.
BD Board of Rights	Enhanced Legal Plan members are provided with an attorney for representation at the Board of Rights under current Claims Unit guidelines. They also are provided with a Business Agent to assist in the Board selection. Upon request of the attorney and approval, the Business Agent may be assigned to further investigation on the case. Business Agents assist accused officers with the drawing of a Board of Rights and are available to the attorneys for approved investigation assistance.	No change.
CV Attorney representation for defending course and scope civil suits where the CA refuses representation.	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	Enhanced Legal Plan members would be provided with an attorney with Board approval.
GJ Attorney representation at course and scope grand jury or DA/FBI interview.	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	An attorney would be provided to Enhanced Legal Plan members.

Chart continues on Page 16

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Website address: lapd.com

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at 1-866-LAPPL4U

1-866-527-7548

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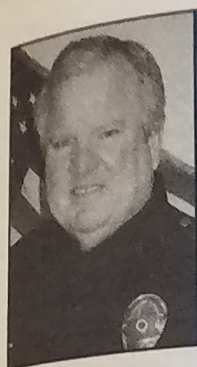
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Tradition with Vision

Police Officer TED HUNT, Secretary



Sign a Petition - Sign Away Your Pension

There is a serious move in the State Legislature to change public pensions as we know them. If passed, the change will include all state and local public agency pensions. It will include our pension - the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pension System - even though we are a fully-funded pension.

The essence of the proposed initiative is to eliminate Defined Benefit Pensions like we have and replace them with Defined Contribution Pensions like the employees of Enron had. This will affect officers hired after July 1, 2007.

What is the Difference between Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution?

DEFINED BENEFIT means that the benefit (what you get) is defined (described and explained) from the beginning.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION means that your contribution (how much you contribute plus the employer's contribution) is defined (described and explained) from the beginning. Whatever is earned over the years is your complete pension bank.

The Title and Summary (the language of what the pension change will do) of

the most prominent proposal is printed in a separate inset, on page 16.

Pensions are Essential to Maintaining a Professional Police Agency

Good pensions are one of the most significant factors in both the recruitment and retention of police officers. There are many times during an officer's career when he/she would have packed up and left if they could have. One of the strongest ties keeping police officers on the job is their pension, sometimes called the "golden handcuffs." Keeping well-trained, efficient and effective officers is not only good public policy, it is good business.

If the incentive of a good pension were taken away, the turnover rate in law enforcement would significantly increase. That is particularly true at LAPD, where we have had recent experience with extreme disincentives and high turnover. In other words, LAPD was a terrible place to work and officers voted with their feet - they left for greener pastures.

LAPD had a very high attrition rate and what's more, could not hire anyone because LAPD had earned the dubious reputation of being a house of horrors as a workplace. As a consequence, LAPD became the training ground for

California's law enforcement agencies, who got LAPD-trained officers at no cost.

If the golden handcuffs were removed, the high price tag for turnover would be a costly unintended consequence of the pension change.

Pension is a Part of Income

Good pensions for peace officers is not a gift, it is earned income. A good pension is something that you earn over your long and hard career, and what you deserve when you retire.

Assumption of Risk

One of the arguments of changing pensions is that under a Defined Benefit system, the employer (government) assumes the risks of paying the pension, regardless of how the market fluctuates. Conversely, under a Defined Contribution system, the risk is shifted either to the individual or the whims of Wall Street.

Public Safety is the Cornerstone of Our Economy

In maintaining the stability of our economy and social order, the public shifts the risk of confronting criminal behavior, including the shifting of risk of personal injury and great bodily harm, to police officers who willingly accept the risk. That assumption of that risk is due, in large part, because police officers know that if they are killed in the line of duty or incapacitated, their family will be taken care of.

Under the proposed pension changes, officers will be PROHIBITED (it will be against the law of the Constitution of California) from receiving any defined benefit, including any compensation for death or injury in the line of duty.

For example, the spouse of a police officer killed in the line of duty currently receives a \$150,000 (plus) line-of-duty death benefit from the State of California. Under this new law, it would violate the Constitution of California for the State to give that benefit to the widow(er) and orphans of officers who sacrificed their lives for the people of California.

In fact, any benefit that you can think of, if it is defined will be illegal, prohibited and forbidden by law to get. This is another unintended consequence.

Question to Each Voter

Would you be willing to regularly and continuously accept the risks of sudden and immediate death or incapacitation, if you knew that upon your death your family would suffer in two ways:

- The horror and catastrophic pain of unexpectedly losing a loved one;
- The indignity and sudden shock of being forced out of your home and middle class into poverty and possibly welfare roles?

Who would take such a job?

The type of person who would accept that risk is not the type of person you want as a peace officer. We would be unable to attract high quality, experienced, educated and well-trained people. The only people we could get and keep would be the people who are rejected under today's standard. That is a recipe for corruption. It is a well-documented economic reality that corruption in a police force leads to economic disintegration.

While the proposals to change the pension system may be well meaning, the UN-intended consequences will certainly erode if not destroy the police profession leading to corruption, increased

continued on page 16



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Inglewood School Police Dept., Ex-LAPD Detective

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Montebello Police Dept., Ex-LAPD Officer

Faculty Advisor Lt. Raymond Foster, M.P.A. (middle), retired LAPD, with UI&U learners Chief Carter (left) and Chief Couso-Vasquez (right)

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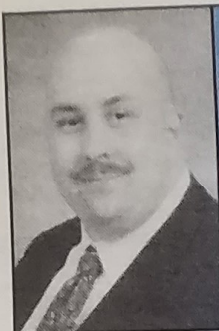
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Let's Roll



Sergeant PAUL M. WEBER, Treasurer

Why Engage?

"With 2004 now behind us, you have much to be proud of. You were successful once gain in saving lives and making the streets of our City safer. Now it is time to set new goals for the New Year, and optimize and capitalize on the momentum of the past two years. Because of your hard work, and your ability to do more with less, the command staff and I feel that this Department has the capacity to achieve a stretch goal of an additional 10% reduction in Part I crime in 2005."

WILLIAM J. BRATTON
CHIEF OF POLICE

The Chief's stated goal is a lofty one, however it begs the larger question Los Angeles Police Officers are asking themselves today, "Why engage?" This is a question they asked themselves while Bernard Parks was chief of police. The answer they gave was in the statistics for arrests and pro-active policing, which went down significantly. This was quite a feat considering the Department's long history of pro-active policing, however he managed to destroy the morale of our officers and their will to engage.

Now the question arises anew after the latest in a series of incidents and how they were handled. The sense of

relief and good feelings with our new chief has come and gone. Now officers want to see the support and leadership promised them.

- We had a series of pursuits that raised questions. The result is a revised pursuit policy.
- A Southeast officer uses his flashlight to control a grand theft auto suspect who attempted to flee in the stolen vehicle and by foot. The result is a new flashlight policy and a desire to get a new "gentle" flashlight.
- Newton officers attempt to apprehend a suspect in a stolen vehicle and the driver attempts to murder the officer. The officer who opted to defend himself shot and killed the driver. He did not shoot at the car, but at the operator whose actions led to the fatal shooting. The result is a change of policy (See Special Order No. 1).

The new policy, laid out in Special Order No. 1, reads as follows:

"Firearms shall not be discharged at a moving vehicle unless a person in the vehicle is immediately threatening the officer or another person with deadly force by means other than the vehicle. For the purposes of this Section, the moving vehicle itself shall not presumptively constitute a threat that justifies an officer's use of deadly force. An offi-

cer threatened by an oncoming vehicle shall move out of its path instead of discharging a firearm at it or any of its occupants..."

The Department has the legal right to create and enforce its policies including the use of force policy. The real issue is not that they can do it, but how they do it. They see a crisis and react to it by modifying our policy. The problem is this creates in the mind of the public the opinion that the original policy was flawed, the officers see it as pandering and it creates concerns that policies are as fluid as the Department's org chart. Policy should not be written on a chalkboard. Officers have been taught the importance of staying within the parameters of the policy and having confidence the policy is a sound reflection of the law and the realities they face. The officers I spoke with say they no longer believe that following policy will insure their survival either legally or administratively.

The debate over Special Order No. 1 in the police commission was lively and included a strong presentation of our position by our President, Bob Baker. The initial proposal would prohibit use of deadly force when the only danger is posed by a vehicle. Chief Bratton was supported by Police Commission President Cunningham and board member Rick Caruso.

But commissioners Rose Ochi and Alan Skobin said Bratton's written policy was unclear. Please keep in mind that Skobin has decades of police experience as a reserve officer and deputy. Skobin proposed a substitute that he said provides greater clarity but critics contend dilutes the strength of the ban on shooting.

Skobin suggested the policy should state that a vehicle itself should not constitute a threat that justifies the use of deadly force "unless the actions of the driver clearly demonstrate the driver's intention to assault the officer or another person resulting in death or serious injury."

In debate, Cunningham questioned how officers could know a driver's intentions. (Source: LA Times)

To answer this question I would like to offer a few indicators:

- Driver violates the law and endangers the public.
- Driver attempts to avoid arrest without regard for the safety of others.
- Driver steers the car at the officer(s).
- Officers smell burning rubber, exhaust fumes, hear tires screeching or vehicle lights (front or rear) fill their field of vision or the thought flashes through their mind "I hope my wife and children will be okay without me."

In our business these are considered clues. The driver's actions speak as clearly as any written or spoken word.

Point - "Bratton said that a new policy should prohibit officers from shooting at people in vehicles 'unless the officer or other persons are threatened by deadly force, other than the moving vehicle.'" LA Times

Counterpoint - "The fact remains, in the past four years alone, 22 officers have been killed by criminals intentionally using their cars as weapons. These officers were tragically unable to just 'move out of the path' of oncoming vehicles driven by murderers." (Board of Directors, Los Angeles Police Protective League)

Now a thug in a car, who now believes police officers and the public are targets, will run them down with a feeling of impunity because cars are not to be considered deadly weapons. Will we now

have to amend the penal code and stop taking crime reports for ADW with a vehicle? Will the promised training for the new policy include how to run backwards or beg for mercy?

The pattern seems to be when a controversial event occurs they immediately implement the following plan:

1. Event happens.
2. Immediately bench, transfer or assign home, involved officers. (For their own good or safety.)
3. Disclose the officer's information in the most public manner possible so the media can camp out at his door (wife and kids love this) and ask their inane questions.
4. Stand firm behind our training and policy until the pressure becomes too great - then immediately announce we are going to review/change our policy, which is disclosed to LA Times as soon as possible - the officers can then read it in the comfort of their homes.
5. Hold press conference expressing your anger and disbelief before you hear or see the evidence. Why wait? You cannot get votes waiting!
6. Create a working group to look into it. There is a direct correlation between how loud you scream and your chances of being on the panel.
7. Whatever is needed to deflect the blame!

On top of this is a liberal dose of administrative transfers, unending consent decree mandates, critical understaffing in patrol, significant reduction in meaningful training, increased demands by Comstat to produce results without additional resources, micro-review of uses of force by the "experts," leadership by comment cards, continuation of Park's culture of "got ya" and shoot from the lip comments by our City "leaders" and Department management.

Then let's add community activists who advocate violence against the police, civil unrest, and have a lack of concern for the real victims. I am talking about the men, women, and children who live in this City and are the prey of our local terrorists. They display such real outrage and demand for instant justice without the investigation being completed. However if the police ever thought of acting in the same manner with one of their "constituents" they would be howling. The sad fact seems to be that the City "leaders" and the Department immediately respond to appease people whose agenda requires our complete surrender.

Let's not forget our supporters, the governor and his pals who want to further devastate public safety by removing defined benefit pensions and death benefits in the State of California. They already have wreaked havoc with injured officers with the "reformed" worker's compensation package they rammed through.

The reality is our officers already give too much and risk too much every day. "More with less" is a tired and defunct management phrase. This has and will continue to lead to more incidents that endanger officers, citizens, and our ability to police this City. Let's tell the truth - you cannot safely and effectively police this City with the officers we have.

The citizens of Los Angeles voted in the mayor and City council. They selected the chief of police. The Chief has the duty to lead our officers and finally put to rest the question, "Why engage?"

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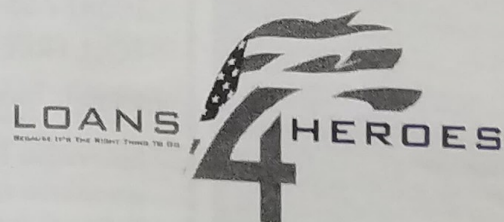
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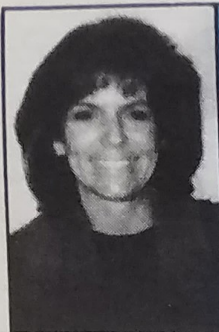
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Knocking Schwarzenegger's Train Off a Dangerous Path

Police Officer MITZI GRASSO, Director



Public safety is a public service. No one becomes a police officer to be wealthy. But, by the same token, no one becomes a police officer expecting they or their families would be tossed aside as "too expensive" should they become hurt or killed in the line of duty. Taking care of officers injured in the line of duty, or their families should they pay the ultimate sacrifice, is not too much to ask in return for our services.

As you can gather from Bob Baker's article, Governor Schwarzenegger has decided that all employees working for the government are nothing more than "special interests."

You have probably read countless articles on the governor's pension proposal as his initiative gains dangerous momentum. The governor's "defined contribution" plan will replace our current "defined benefit" plan offering disability and death benefits with one that offers up to a 9% match on salary - period.

The governor's plan eliminates death and disability benefits to all officers, potentially leaving our families financially destitute. The families of future officers killed in the line of duty would receive only the proceeds the officer saved in his "defined contribution" account, as opposed to the current sys-

tem that provides a lifetime payment to the surviving spouse.

Schwarzenegger egregiously suggested that officers could simply purchase their own insurance to compensate for the lack of death and disability benefits. So, not only does the governor want to reduce the government's fiscal responsibility, he wants officers to foot the bill. The proposed plan is shockingly callous and ethically reprehensible.

Under Schwarzenegger's new scheme, future officers are going to need to become stock market experts in order to ensure the safety and security of their families. Their fiscal and emotional health will become dependent on how the stock market performs. The governor and his legislative lackeys want to place the security of future officers at the perilous mercy of a wavering economy. Instead of becoming officers, they might as well head to Wall Street and play the stock market.

So what, you say, this isn't going to affect me. Oh, but it will. Start with increased costs to the City once a different plan is put in place for future officers. Given limited budgets, every dollar spent as costs increase on our plan is a dollar unavailable to you for pay raises and other benefits. The official State of California summary of the

initiative acknowledges that there will be "unknown net impacts" on public employer costs. To date, every single government agency that has studied this undeveloped plan has concluded that short-term costs will rise dramatically.

Lateral transfers between departments will end, as nobody in their right mind will leave their defined benefit plan to work for another department that will only be able to offer a "defined contribution" plan. This doesn't affect you if you want to work as an officer somewhere else, but it will affect you if you were offered the job of chief of police in another department. If you leave this Department after 2007, under the governor's plan you will not be able to enroll in a "defined benefit" plan ever again.

Think of whom you work next to, and whom your life and safety depend on. It is hard enough to recruit qualified people to become officers. What kind of candidate is going to be signing up in the future for a job without death and disability benefits, and no secure retirement?

The governor failed to garner support for this idea in Sacramento, and refused to entertain any compromise on his legislation. He has decided to circumvent our legislature in order to implement a plan that will irrevocably harm our profession. Even now, paid signature gatherers are hanging outside the local stores urging people to sign "Arnold's" petition.

Playing the role of movie star instead of government leader, the "Governator" has resorted to Hollywood-style staged press events to present his message. He doesn't have the courage to debate this issue, refusing to be questioned by those who want to engage him on real facts

and figures. Instead, he trots from one staged venue to another soliciting signatures for his ballot petition. In so doing, he has manipulated the facts and spread spurious lies in order to appease voters angered over the previous administration's mishandled budget. Schwarzenegger has transformed into a public pariah feasting off the carrion of miseducated voters scared by California's own budget horror story.

It is ironic that the same man that requires a detail of sworn peace officers to accompany him everywhere he goes is attempting to gut the future pensions of all officers who will follow in their footsteps. As one person commented recently, the fact that officers have to guard "Arnold" is like making somebody dig their own grave before they are executed.

Regardless of Schwarzenegger's tactics, we cannot allow this pension initiative to get on the ballot, let alone pass in November. By April 21, the governor needs 600,000 signatures to place his initiative on the ballot. We must encourage our friends and family to aggressively oppose this plan by refusing to sign the signature petition.

We need to stop this dangerous train in its tracks before it steamrolls over us and the safety of our good city. We must go into this battle fully armed and ready to fight tooth and nail for not only our profession, but the decency, righteousness, and courage that have long been associated with public service. I hope this message is an official call to arms, because we simply must win this fight; it is our job and our responsibility to future generations of the LAPD.

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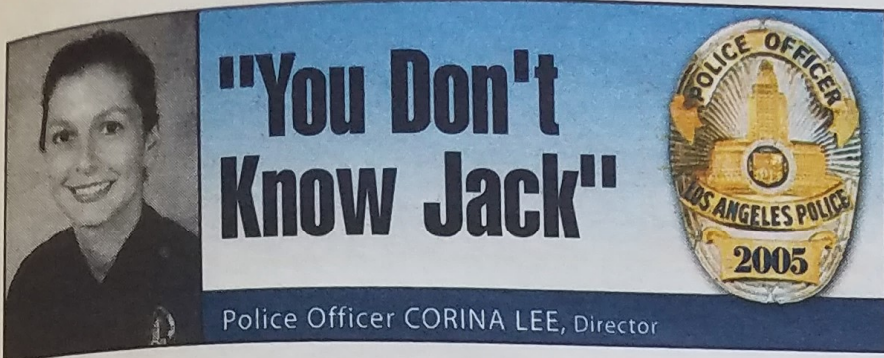
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Police Officer CORINA LEE, Director

Since 2000, Jack Dunphy has been more than a cyber pseudonym writing politically charged missives, he has been a reasoned and eloquent voice for rank-and-file LAPD officers. Dunphy's columns appear in the National Review Online (NRO) (www.nationalreview.com) and have garnered considerable attention for his well written, often poignant reflective articles describing LAPD and the state of America's policing. But that leads me to ask the ever important question: Who is Jack?

In 2000, after meeting with a writer/editor of the NRO at the Democratic Convention, Jack was invited to record his thoughts for the NRO website, in 1,000 words or less. Jack recorded over 3,000 words for a column and Jack Dunphy emerged. His columns give NRO readers a unique glimpse into the inner workings of the LAPD and its politics. They have become engaged in Jack's hard-boiled columns. His column routinely receives over 15,000 hits a day. Because of the power of Jack's literary podium, an intimidated and fortunately former police chief, who shall be unnamed but who now "serves" on the City Council, once made great efforts to uncover Dunphy's true name. We applaud NRO for keeping Jack's identity covert. In an age where CIA covert officers' names are leaked to the press, this is a real accomplishment.

Recently, Jack came to the defense of LAPD Officers Dana Grant and Steven Garcia, the two officers involved in the Devin Brown shooting incident. Dunphy deftly painted the scene and described the genuine motives behind all of the players. Jack has become one of the most effective defenders of LAPD "rank and file" through his brave words and ruthlessly honest commentary.

LAPD has long been L.A. media's all-time favorite whipping boy. But no one knows what it is like to sacrifice and put your life on the line unless you have served. Jack has the ability to translate the cop's reality so clearly and honestly that the reader easily puts him or herself into the cop's shoes - he or she quickly gets what it's like to be in fear for your life from some punk with a gun or how it would feel to grieve with family destroyed by gang violence. Dunphy isn't shy with his opinions, but he also makes a point of providing a balanced recreation of situations and events. Readers get a glimpse into the life of an LAPD officer as it really is day to day on our streets and makes it easy for them to feel the immediacy over the agonizing decisions officers make every hour of every day.

Thank God for Jack Dunphy. Perhaps someday, after he retires, we will be able to honor him in person. For now, all we can do is say, "Thanks, Jack."

Reprint of Recent Jack Dunphy Editorial - With Permission from Jack 2/20/05 Los Angeles Times

The Times Quotes Firebrands and Convicts the City's Cops

By Jack Dunphy

I grew up reading the *Los Angeles Times*, but not long ago I canceled the subscription I had held for nearly 30 years. Though I graduated from college a proud liberal, my political views have moved steadily rightward as I've grown older, and I came to find my opinions diverging more and more sharply from those on *The Times'* editorial pages.

But I expect to disagree with the editorials in any of the major dailies, a few of which I regularly read online. It is when I find liberal bias on the news

pages that I am most disappointed, and nowhere has such bias been more evident in *The Times* over the years than in its coverage of the Los Angeles Police Department.

As an LAPD officer, I'm certainly aware that, when incidents such as the Devin Brown shooting occur, there is a great demand for large-scale coverage from the city's only major newspaper. But too often that coverage is misguided, muddying the truth and causing much more societal harm than good. Like its reportage on the Rodney King trial, the Margaret Mitchell shooting and other police-related controversies over the years, *The Times'* coverage of the Brown shooting seems designed to raise expectations that the involved officer, Steve Garcia, will be punished or even imprisoned for his actions that morning.

The first sentence of *The Times'* first

continued on page 18

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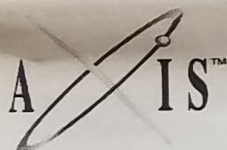
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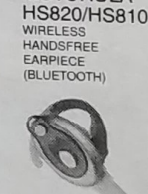
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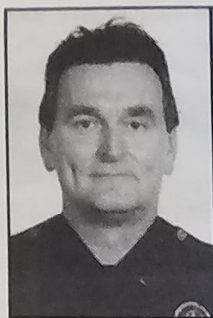


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Department Sensitivity

Lieutenant LUTHER LUTZ, Director



When I was young, my mother told me that if you do not have anything nice to say about something or someone do not say anything. Unfortunately, at times I do not always follow her sage advice and this is one of those times. Although in this case I am sure she would understand. Hopefully, I have the story straight and will only be stepping on the toes of individuals that should be embarrassed by their insensitivity in the handling of this matter.

Let me give you the background of what I am talking about and how the Department through its indifference and administrative actions is trying to ruin the life of a good officer that deserves to be treated better and the reputation of an officer that gave his life in the line of duty.

On Feb. 20, 2004, Police Officer Ricardo Lizarraga and his partner, Officer Joel Ruiz, were flagged down by a victim of a domestic dispute. As a result of that routine encounter, Officers Lizarraga and Ruiz were involved in an officer-involved shooting. Tragically, Officer Lizarraga was shot and died as the result of his gunshot wounds. As in every officer-involved shooting or categorical use-of-force incident, the tactics utilized by the involved officers are second-guessed to death by command staff officers that know everything that is to be known about good tactics because they read about it in some book while preparing for a promotional oral. Or worse yet, they imagine what they would have done in similar circumstances because they know that had they not been so intellectually gifted and promoted they would have been assigned to patrol and would have been tactical experts, using only the most sound tactical option possible during every encounter they had (as reflected by all the sound tactical decisions made when PSB was involved in an OIS in Southeast Division). Eventually, after many months of review and second-guessing, these self-proclaimed tactical

experts make a decision regarding the tactics that were utilized and the officer is informed of the decision. Of course, in every incident these tactical experts come up with all kinds of alternate tactics that could have/should have been used. The tactics are always found wanting in some manner by the tactical geniuses involved in the review process.

It has been a year since the tragic death of Officer Lizarraga. During the past year, it has not been easy for Officer Lizarraga's family or Officer Ruiz and his family. However, thanks to the support provided by the Family Support Group, co-workers, and family members, Officer Lizarraga's family and Officer Ruiz and his family made it through the past year. Anyone that has been involved in this type of tragic event knows it is not easy and that you need a lot of inner strength and support to survive. Officer Ruiz has demonstrated this inner strength by continuing to work at Newton Area serving the community and trying to perform his duties to the best of his ability. Officer Ruiz recently returned to patrol duties and he is once again working the field as a patrol officer, knowing that every decision he makes is subject to being second-guessed by community activists and the Department. However, this has not deterred him and he is out there doing the job he loves and doing the job we all came on to do – protect the community and arrest the predators that prey on the community.

On Feb. 18, 2005, Newton area hosted a barbeque and unveiled the fallen officer memorial that was erected in the courtyard area at Newton Station to honor Officer Lizarraga and other officers that were killed in the line of duty. Over a hundred officers were present to honor Officer Lizarraga and to pay their tribute to his family and his widow, Joyce. The unveiling of the memorial and the tribute to Officer Lizarraga was a very moving event and was a very festive event honoring Officer Lizarraga's family for the ultimate sacrifice Officer

Lizarraga made while providing police services to the community.

However, at the barbeque that was held after the memorial the topic of conversation was anything but festive. The majority of the officers were talking about the fact that earlier that day Officer Ruiz was served with the paperwork that the Department intended to suspend him for 10 days for the tactics that were used on the day his partner, Officer Lizarraga, was murdered. This recommendation is not acceptable to Officer Ruiz' friends and co-workers. Why the Department feels the need to find the tactics being out of policy and to suspend Officer Ruiz is another issue to be addressed at a later date.

What is even worse than the Department's recommendation that Officer Ruiz be suspended is their timing, which could not have been worse even if they had planned it. Of course, one of the excuses I heard was that it was a hard decision that had to be made and that the complaint had to be served on the date of Officer Lizarraga's memorial because otherwise the complaint would be out of statute and the Department would be unable to penalize Officer Ruiz. I guess that is why I am not captain material because I would have let the paperwork sit on my desk and let it get out of statute rather than serving it on the date of the memorial because personally I think Officer Ruiz has gone through enough.

The Department had a whole year to deal with this issue and the best reason they can come up with for their stupidity is that there was a statute problem. Please, give me a break. If they think there is anyone that will benefit from this stupid decision, I would like the Department to find that person for me.

The prevailing sentiment expressed by the officers at the barbeque was that for the last year, Department management has been doing everything they could to undermine and destroy the morale of the division. They talked about how they felt about the shabby way their former Captain, Captain Fabian Lizarraga, and several other supervisors had been administratively transferred out of Newton. They felt the way the Department handled the transfers for the officers, supervisors, and former captain was handled very poorly. The common theme repeatedly expressed was that the only reason they were still working was because of their work ethic and their pride in Newton. That despite the Department's efforts to kill their spirit, they like doing their job and were going to continue to do their job because the citizens in Newton Area deserve good police service, not officers that drive around smiling and waving while doing nothing to protect the community or to arrest the criminals that prey on the community.

Does Chief Bratton know what is going on in Newton? If he does, does he approve of the actions being taken? Even if the Department rescinds the ten-day suspension that is being recommended the damage has been done. Officers are used to community activists and politicians demanding that officers be fired or imprisoned for all sorts of imagined injustices. Officers know that these pandering, publicity-seeking, self-righteous individuals will always be critical of the actions of officers or of Department policies as a way of keeping themselves in the limelight and trying to get their 15 minutes of fame. Officers know that these publicity-seeking glory hounds do not care about what actually occurred or that the officer was just trying to do the right thing and acting within Department policy.

Officers, on the other hand, have a right to expect the Department's

support when they are involved in an incident that becomes a media feeding frenzy when their actions complied with Department policy and make a split-second decision based on their belief that they were doing the right thing and acting properly. When an officer makes an honest mistake and there was no evil intent, the Department's focus should be on training instead of being fixated on punishment. Hopefully, this is not a naive belief and officers can look forward to such support when they are only trying to do the right thing. Recent events, such as all the knee-jerk reactions by the Department to change whatever policy the community activists and pandering politicians demand because of some type of perceived injustice by the police, does not portray to officers that they have the Department's support. I hope that this is not the case even though that is the way it seems recently.

During the weekend, when Chief Bratton was briefed regarding the barbeque at Newton Station and Officer Ruiz' situation, he immediately reacted by rescinding the 10-day suspension. Chief Bratton immediately recognized the Department had not correctly handled the issue as it should have been handled and corrected the injustice being done to Officer Ruiz. The only question I have is why was the Chief the only one to see the injustice in what was being proposed and why all the command staff involved in the review of this matter did not have the backbone or cojones to handle it as it should have been handled? It seems that we still have some command officers that still believe in not wanting to look weak on discipline and still wanting to get a pound of flesh from officers when there is any perceived negative reaction from any source, either internal or external.

Attention Football Fanatics

It has been awhile since football season concluded and a few months before it begins again. However, you do not have to go through withdrawal – get out and see the Department's football team, the Los Angeles Centurions, in action.

The Centurions have been the Department's official football team since 1978 and is entirely comprised of police officers. The Centurions are one of 15 law enforcement football teams comprised of police officers or firefighters that travel nationwide to play football and to raise money for their favorite charity. Over the years the Centurions have won several championships and after a season of rebuilding they are hoping to be in the championship game again this year.

In addition to watching some good football, you can also cheer on some of your co-workers. Also, all of the money raised by the Centurions goes to the Blind Children's Center. So come to a game and watch a good football game, while at the same time supporting a worthy charity. You may have missed the first two games in March but you still have time to see the three games in April and May. So make plans now to come to a game and support your co-workers in their efforts. Everyone on the team puts in a lot of time, energy and sweat into putting on a good football game and to raising money for a very worthy cause. The team and I look forward to seeing you so block off some Saturdays so you can attend the games. The next game will be at Junipero Serra High School, 14830 S. Van Ness, Gardena, on Saturday, April 9 (see the schedule in the sports section for the rest of the season).

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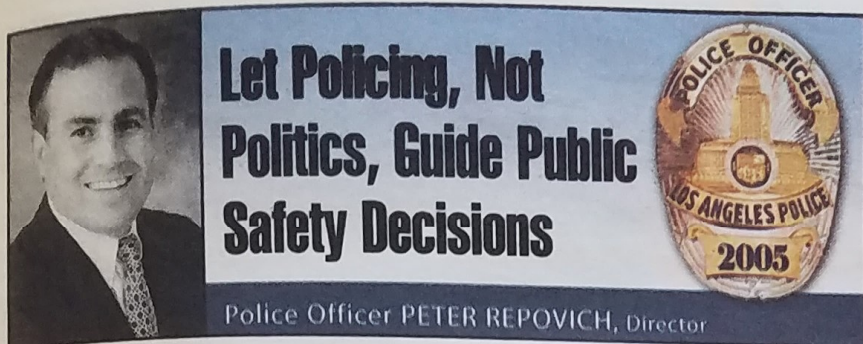
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Let Policing, Not Politics, Guide Public Safety Decisions

Police Officer PETER REPOVICH, Director

When we signed up for this job, we knew it wouldn't be easy — in fact, I think many of us got into law enforcement because of it. But it seems like lately that our jobs have been made even tougher by the increased heat on and scrutiny of our officers.

Perhaps the recent elections caused the spotlight to burn even brighter on the LAPD than usual. Mayor Hahn is understandably pleased and proud of the accomplishments made in the area of public safety during the last several years, particularly in partnership with Chief Bratton. But by continually raising the topics of crime statistics, numbers of LAPD officers and Department policy, Mayor Hahn has unwittingly invited criticism and examination from the other candidates, the media and the community.

Though we may benefit from some of this competitiveness as part of the election — such as the numerous ideas for adding officers to the LAPD, and some real action in this area — unfortunately the additional scrutiny has had the effect that we saw from the consent decree. While suggestions for improvement and creative options for more effectively

doing our jobs are appreciated, when they begin to interfere with our ability to protect the community, it becomes difficult to accept.

The policies of our Department have been written and set in such a way that not only protects the community, but also our officers. There is a great amount of risk in the job we do and the policies that govern our actions must recognize and support this.

Now we find ourselves in a situation where more restrictions are being placed on our actions related to confrontations with suspects in cars or cars being used as weapons. As rules are changed or tightened, officers begin to question what is right and what is wrong in certain situations — and this hesitation could endanger or even cost the life of someone in the community or an officer. With the policy as it was — which is essentially how it was “changed” to be most recently — the rule was up for interpretation depending on the severity of the situation; but further calling into question how officers apply this policy creates confusion and uncertainty.

I believe retired LAPD Sergeant Rod Bernsen said it best in his Feb. 21 Los

Angeles Times op-ed: “When an officer makes the decision to use deadly force, it is an intensely personal one that is made in seconds. All the officers have is the threat and their training and experience.” Unlike other jobs, we don't have the luxury of conducting a 360-degree analysis of all of our challenges to determine the best decision and possible outcomes. Our decision and actions must be simultaneous.

Another area that has been under attack as part of the mayor's race has been the flexible work schedule. Even a positive report about response times at the Department set off a debate about the work schedules.

In mid-February, a report was released showing that response times to emergency calls to the LAPD were 6.7 minutes (as compared to 8.3 minutes prior to the work schedules' implementation before 2002 and 10.2 minutes between 2002 and 2004). Department data showed that current response times are more like 6.3 minutes. Regardless, instead of acknowledging the benefit this brings to the community, mayoral candidate Bernard Parks turned it into an opportunity to condemn flexible work schedules.

No one can dispute the immense benefits the flexible work schedules have brought to the LAPD. Crime is down, deployment is more effective and officer morale is up. Rather than being lured away to other departments that have the schedules, officers are staying here at the LAPD to continue to serve the community.

And that is what we need more than

ever — officers staying at the LAPD and more officers coming to the LAPD. While we are seeing more progress in this area with a series of plans to hire additional officers, we hit another wall when the City Council voted down a proposal to place a measure on the May ballot to raise the city sales tax in order to fund the hiring of 1,200 officers.

While almost all of the city officials support hiring more officers, no one has been able to succeed in getting approval for a large-scale plan to add officers. The only way we will truly be able to reduce crime in our city and effect change in our communities is with more personnel on the streets.

But I'm preaching to the choir here. You all know this as well as I do. Unfortunately, by working in a large city such as Los Angeles that is looked to as a leader in everything ranging from law enforcement to business to tourism, everyone has an opinion and is willing to offer it. And when election time rolls around, everyone will weigh in on everything — and will allow their opinions to be guided by the media or the community.

We must remember the ever-improving job we do in serving the City of Los Angeles and take pride in the jobs that we do. While the politics of our city will never change, I hope that with the lull in the election season we will see less conjecture about “issues” at the LAPD and more action on the part of our city leaders in being partners with us in protecting our city.

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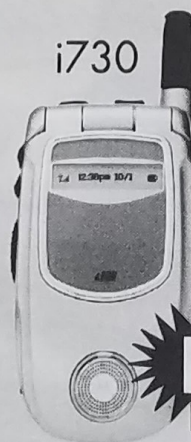
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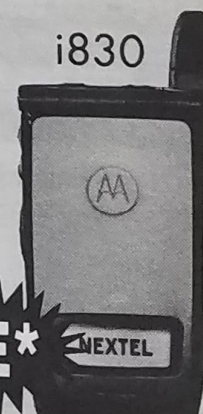
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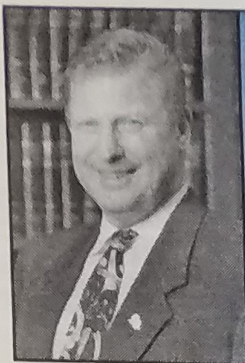
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Run & Hide



Detective CLIFF RUFF, Director

Stanley Miller is a career criminal and Devin Brown was an apprentice criminal. A baby rattlesnake can kill you the same as an adult rattlesnake. A 2,000-pound car can kill you just as easily as a 158-grain bullet. Why are the Mayor, Chief of Police and Police Commission coddling criminals?

One gets the impression that if you are an African-American criminal there is a

separate set of rules that apply. According to the loquacious community activists, the involved officer should be immediately lynched and crucified. Never mind the facts or a completed investigation. Isn't it interesting that the police are always wrong and the criminal element is what matters most to the squeakin' deacons?

The most serious problem regarding South Los Angeles is black-on-black

crime. Whites aren't killing blacks, Hispanics aren't killing blacks, and Asians aren't killing blacks. The fact is that young African-American males are being murdered by the hundreds by other African-American males in South Los Angeles. Where is the hue and cry from the so-called community leaders? The police aren't the problem. African-American criminals are the problem.

Police shootings are the lowest they have ever been. But, according to the ministers, the police are the problem. They ignore black-on-black crime. They ignore fatherless homes, the violent, sexist rap influence, curfew and truancy. African-American citizens live in fear in their own communities because of the criminal element. Yet, somehow, all the woes of South L.A. are the police's fault.

Now we have Mayor Hahn pandering to the African-American voters, like they're not going to vote for Bernard Parks anyway. Jim Hahn is a good man, but he's embarrassed himself. Why is Commissioner Caruso apologizing? Has any investigation determined that wrongdoing occurred? Or is it hypocrisy from a man with no shopping complexes in South L.A.?

The Chief of Police has the smallest per capita police force in the country. He continues to demand more with less. Chief Gascon wants Part One crimes reduced 10% in 2005. We are strained to the limits. And now they issue a policy that somehow implies we can run and hide from cars. LAPD used to be the glowing example of professional police work, but now the Chief wants to survey

the rest of the nation to find a better way. The message he is sending is don't get involved... don't engage. If you do engage, you're on your own. You must articulate why you did not run and hide. The criminal element already knows how to penalize officers by making frivolous personnel complaints. Now the criminal element is being provided with the knowledge and skills to force officers to run and hide.

Did you know the Department's Use of Force Review Board ruled "Administrative Disapproval" on the Ricardo Lizarraga incident? Do you think John Hatfield and Steve Garcia are headed for Boards of Rights because they are political liabilities? Who's looking out for you? Be careful and deliberate in everything you do, or you could end up being cannon fodder. A couple of desk jockey command officers will be judging your fate when they have no clue of the dangers that field officers are faced with.

We have an absolute duty to perform our duties in the most professional manner possible, absent any biases or prejudices. Our officers are serious about making all communities safe for its citizens. A community reaps what it sows. Until the concerned communities address the issues of crime and the criminals that are created there, don't blame the officer. Blame the criminal.

Be careful out there. Remember, under the new rules you must articulate why you didn't run and hide. Cars can't hurt you, can they?



Use of Force

Challenge community of force police the League has of activity in weeks. Given area, we are discussion ab in some of th our newspaper to keep you issues. Alth management setting use o of policies ne from a safety

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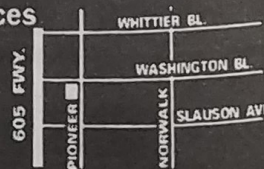
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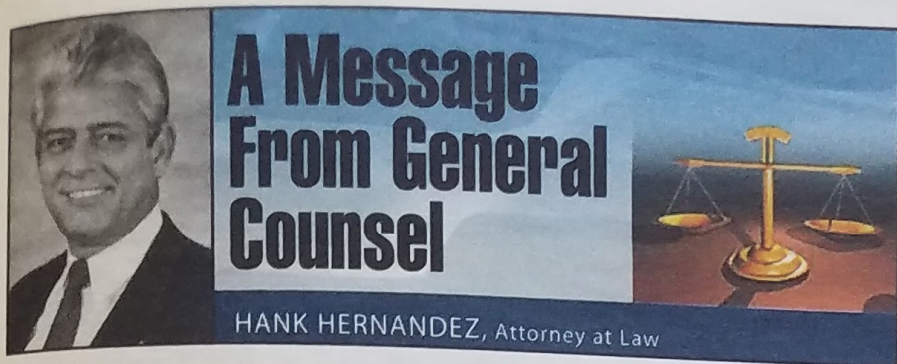
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Use of Force Issues

Challenges from politicians and community activists to the LAPD's use of force policies arise frequently. We at the League have been involved in a flurry of activity in this area for the past few weeks. Given the revived activity in this area, we are providing some in-depth discussion about deadly confrontations in some of the articles of this edition of our newspaper in our continuing effort to keep you informed of the relevant issues. Although police Department management has considerable leeway in setting use of force policies, these type of policies need to be well thought out from a safety and legal perspective.

During our research regarding proposed changes to the LAPD shooting at moving vehicles policy, we came across two very insightful e-mails from law enforcement officers who shared their experience of incidents while off-duty.

One is from an officer whose lethal confrontation in civilian clothes happened to erupt in home territory rather than out of state, although the circumstances and the haunting afterburn certainly could easily arise when traveling.

The other comes from an officer who was caught in a threatening situation in a "foreign" locale without a weapon, but through fast-thinking and the right demeanor escaped unscathed.

What happened gave both officers second thoughts about what they would do differently the next time around...

Fatal Off-Duty Shootout in Crowded McDonald's

I had taken my family to a McDonald's restaurant on our way to a pool party. I was off-duty, in civilian clothes, and armed.

I was standing in line and oblivious (like all the other patrons) to the fact that an armed suspect had taken the manager hostage and was forcing her to open the safe in the restaurant's office. One of the cashiers had seen this and I overheard her telling another employee that the business was being robbed.

At that time, I had approximately 15 years of experience and was a SWAT team member and use-of-force/firearms instructor. I had talked to my wife about such an occurrence and we had a preplanned response. When I told her to take the children and leave the building she did not hesitate. I began quietly telling employees and patrons to leave. My thinking was to remove as many innocent bystanders as possible and then leave myself.

I thought that because I did not see the suspect enter he must have come in from a side door or employee entrance

and I assumed (wrongly) that he would go out the same way. As I was standing near the front counter trying to get some of the kitchen help to get out, the suspect came from the office area and began running in my direction.

I immediately noted the large semi-automatic pistol in his hand. The distance was about 15 to 20 yards. I drew my weapon, announced myself and took a kneeling position behind the counter. Unfortunately, the suspect raised his weapon at me and the gunfight erupted. The suspect fired a total of two rounds in my direction. I fired 11, striking him 10 times.

My weapon was now empty and I ran from the line of fire to reload my spare magazine. I then approached the downed suspect and could tell that he was seriously wounded. It was right then that I considered that there might be more than one "bad guy" (the thought had not crossed my mind before this) and I began to scan the 360 to check.

I immediately noticed a small child lying behind me. I saw blood pooling under her head and knew at a glance she was dead. One of the bullets fired at me had struck this child. Unbeknownst to me, my family had tried to exit out the fire door, which was locked. My wife was still trying to get out when the shooting started and she pushed my kids under a table where they all witnessed the gunfight.

The end result was that the suspect died, I survived, but a 9-year-old girl did not.

I tell you this story because I think that this topic is of utmost importance. It is largely ignored in mainstream police training. I want to tell you some of the lessons I learned from this incident.

1. If you are going to carry a firearm off-duty, you should carry extra ammo.

Security camera video of this incident revealed that I fired all 11 rounds from my Glock 26 in about two seconds. My extra mag held 17 rounds. Words cannot describe the emotion I felt when I slammed that mag into my weapon and was able to still be in the fight.

Mostly because of circumstances (distance) and my training, my rounds were on target. It could have happened differently and the reality is that most of us miss more than we hit when involved in a gun battle.

2. You cannot have the typical police mind-set in an off-duty situation. I ended up in this incident without a radio, without backup, without body armor, handcuffs, other force options and without taking the time to think it through. I was truly most frightened when the gunfight was over and I was standing there covering the suspect with my weapon in my T-shirt and shorts. I was really worried that one of my own guys might not recognize me. I was worried too that there might be some other off-duty copper around who would think I was the bad guy.

The smartest, most responsible thing I could have done would have been to take care of my family first. I should have seen personally to their safety. If I had grabbed them and gone outside, I would have spared them this entire experience and that little girl would probably still be alive today.

Again, words cannot describe the emotions that we all went through after this incident. I recognized afterward that it could have been one of my children lying dead because of my actions. When you are off-duty your first responsibility is to your family. You should never forget this.

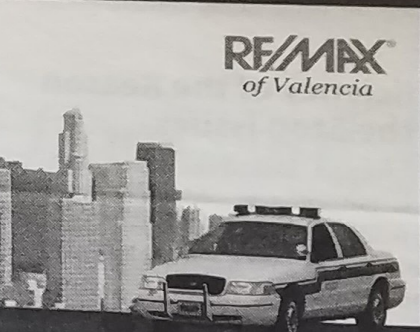
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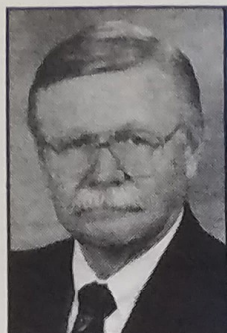
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GARY INGEMUNSON, Attorney at Law

Mine Fields

All of the recent publicity and hoop-la surrounding Use of Force issues in the media and the Department's reaction with the issuance of new policy changes highlight how seemingly simple law enforcement activities can balloon into political and career endangering nightmares for officers. All of the officers involved in these highly publicized cases share at least one common thread. When the officers initiated the law enforcement activity, none of them were thinking about being on television that same evening with lawyers, mayors, chiefs of police, and every other talking head that can be imagined, opining on their every move and decision. Every time you turn on your reds, the reality is that you too can join the ranks of the famous, or infamous, depending on a person's political outlook.

It is true that every human being has two things, a belly button and an opinion. The problem is that when the belly buttons have bars and stars, or a bar card, or write articles for the media, or have television shows, the opinion part can cause havoc in an officer's career, finances, and maybe even freedom. This is nothing new. It has been going on since the formation of LAPD. So let's listen to some warning bells, and take a look at some of the mines that an officer can step on while doing routine police work.

Sufficiency of the Reason for the Stop Issues

The suspect "looked like a gang member" is not enough. More needs to be articulated. If you are exercising police authority over a suspect (virtually anything beyond a purely consensual encounter), you need "reasonable sus-

picion" that criminal activity is afoot and that the person you are detaining is somehow connected with that criminal activity. Reasonable suspicion that must be ARTICULATED. The sexy part of the arrest report might be the suspect's actions sometime after the detention, but the legal, civil, and administrative systems are all going to be looking back at the initial reason for the stop.

Possible consequences down the road are a personnel complaint pursuant to the Consent Decree for violation of constitutional rights, lawsuit in civil court for the same thing, and criminal prosecution of you and your partner by the feds for violation of civil rights.

Vehicle Pursuit Issues

Just because your reason for stopping a suspect is legal, doesn't mean the suspect is actually going to stop. There are all kinds of rules for pursuit in the manual and special orders, but the most dangerous one for you as an officer is the obligation imposed on you by the Department of continual assessment of the need to capture the suspect, balanced against the danger caused by the pursuit to the public. In other words, if the suspect crashes into a civilian and someone gets hurt, the focus will be on your decision to continue the pursuit.

From a legal perspective, you are crazy to ever go in pursuit. If you are crazy enough to go into pursuit, get a sergeant involved as soon as possible because it is then his, or her, obligation to continually assess the need to capture the suspect and balance the danger caused to the public. If you are the sergeant assigned to the pursuit, from a legal perspective, YOU are crazy if you do not call the pursuit off.

That is the legal perspective. The

downside is that, if not pursued, criminals will get away. If you do decide to go into pursuit, keep in mind the questions that will be asked if something goes wrong and know the pursuit policy. If there is a death involved in the pursuit, CALL THE LEAGUE! The League will send attorneys out to represent you.

Foot Pursuits

This is another area that is fraught with administrative danger. First of all, the training bulletin advises you NOT to pursue a suspect who you believe has a gun. That tells you how much backing you're going to get from the Department in foot pursuits. The way of less controversy is to stay behind the cover of your vehicle's door, broadcast for units to set up a perimeter, request air units, K-9, SWAT, various supervisors, and the Command Post trailer, so everyone can have coffee and have a place to go to the bathroom while they wait for the suspect to be captured. This, of course, will only result in the capture of suspects that are extremely slow or really stupid, but from your perspective, you are less likely to get in trouble with the added benefit of a free cup of coffee.

If you can't help yourself and do go into foot pursuit, make sure you do at least two things. First, GO CODE SIX! Yes, I know the radios do not work well, but the Department doesn't care. If your broadcast is not acknowledged, the Department wants you to go Code Six again. This isn't a problem if you are standing behind your vehicle's door watching the suspect fade into the distance, but it becomes a problem when you are running as fast as you can after the suspect. Nevertheless, it is the most common criticism coming out of Use of Force boards. The second thing is, do not separate from your partner. This is a big deal to Use of Force Boards and the leading cause of Administrative Disapproval of foot pursuits.

Going in foot pursuit almost always results in another problem. What do you do with the suspect when you catch him? Generally, the answer involves violence and that brings me to the next area of concern.

Uses of Force

They come in two kinds; Non-categorical and Categorical. There are a lot of rules that determine which is which, but you can tell the difference without ever reading the Special Order. If you are separated from your fellow officers under the personal supervision of a sergeant and there are a dozen or so strangers in suits walking around the scene of the use of force, it was Categorical. Otherwise, it was probably Non-categorical. Either one can get you in a lot of trouble. Remember that the so called "Southeast Flashlight Rough Arrest" seen on national television was a Non-categorical Use of Force. And even though those officers did nothing that was out of policy (currently the Department is not agreeing with me on this), you all may be carrying two-inch long rubber flashlights for the rest of your careers as a direct result of a Non-categorical Use of Force.

The key issue underlying uses of force in either case is the level of resistance of the suspect and the application of the proper tools to overcome the resistance. Uncooperative suspects open the O.C. spray, joint locks tool box. Aggressive/Combative suspects open the impact device, distraction strike, taser, bean bag tool box. Suspects whose actions may reasonably lead to serious bodily injury, or death, open the neck restraint and firearm toolbox. The first question asked by the Use of Force Board (other than did the officer go Code Six) is what level of resistance was the suspect exhibiting. The next is a look at the tool used by the officer to take the suspect into custody.

Conclusions on your part as to the suspect's level of resistance, such as "the suspect became aggressive/combative so I struck him on the arm with my baton" are not all that helpful. DESCRIBE the actions of the suspect in detail so as to illustrate which category he fell into. Then describe which tool you used to win the day. Remember, each tool has its own list of do's and don'ts. For instance, did you know that you are supposed to give a Garner warning before using the baton? If not, better hit that training

continued on page 20

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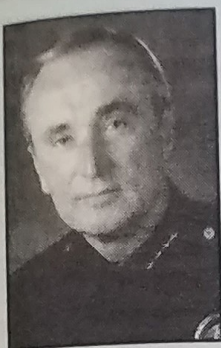
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A Message From Chief Bratton

by Chief William Bratton

TEAMS II

In keeping with our Department's core value of "Quality through Continuous Improvement," we are always looking for innovative and creative methods to develop the best policing practices. One significant result of our quest for managing the workplace is the Training Evaluation and Management System II, better known as TEAMS II.

The initial TEAMS system, known as TEAMS I, was established in 1997 and allowed supervisors a limited view of an employee's automated performance history. That wasn't good enough. So the system was enhanced to allow access to the information for all Department employees, not just supervisors. Since then the revisions and enhancements have continued, and today what we have is TEAMS II.

It is a highly efficient computer database system that provides critical information to ensure Department personnel are effectively utilized and trained. Like the Department's COMPSTAT system, TEAMS II is designed to utilize technology to its maximum potential. The goal is to effectively evaluate, measure and manage our most valuable resource — you, the men and women of this Department.

TEAMS II can provide comparative analysis of an employee's performance to that of their peers performing similar duties under like conditions. With this information, supervisors and managers will be able to fairly evaluate the nature, quantity, and quality of an employee's work performance. In addition, managers will be better able to evaluate each supervisor's ability to oversee their employees. This will assist all of us in becoming more productive and effective in the workplace.

An employee's TEAMS II report will contain a summary of the employee's history within the Department including disciplinary actions, firearms qualification information, assignment and rank history, work permit information, training history, and commendation records. Public contacts, such as number of citations issued, number of arrests, and number of pedestrian and vehicle stops, are also included. Additionally, risk management issues will also be part of the TEAMS II report and include information on use of force incidents, traffic collisions, pursuits, and civil litigation records.

TEAMS II will work by using a new Use of Force System, a Complaint Management System, and Deployment Period System. These will be added to

informational systems already maintained by the Department. Selected performance-related data will be extracted from each of the systems and fed into a newly created Risk Management Information System, which is the heart of TEAMS II. Lastly, TEAMS II will allow "on-line" reporting, documenting, and reviewing of use of force and complaint investigations.

Here's how the Risk Management Information System will work. An employee's performance information is stored in the 14 databases. Selected performance data is sent from the individual databases into a "data staging area," which is like an information warehouse. Periodically, the Risk Management Information System extracts information from the data staging area and performs comparative analysis of both individual and organizational performances. When comparisons identify an employee or an organizational entity with performance issues that are significantly different from the performance of their respective peer groups, an automatic notification, or "Action Item," is generated to determine if appropriate recognition or mentoring is needed.

I want to reassure all of you that an "Action Item" on its own does not indicate misconduct. An "Action Item" merely indicates that an employee's performance is different when compared to one's peers. It doesn't mean that they have done anything wrong or improper. An "Action Item" merely notifies a supervisor or manager to initiate a review.

You're probably asking yourselves, "When will we see TEAMS II?" The first two components of TEAMS II, the new Use of Force System and Deployment Period System, are being

rolled out as a pilot program in Northeast and Central Areas, Force Investigation Division, and Use of Force Review Division. The Complaint Management System and the Risk Management Information System will be activated soon after. A Department-wide rollout of all TEAMS II components will be accomplished on a bureau-by-bureau basis starting in late May. We expect to complete the rollout by November.

I encourage all of you to become familiar with TEAMS II by visiting the "TEAMS II News" home page on the Department's info web. Simply click on the "TEAMS II News" option for current, updated information. Also expect to see Special Orders and TEAMS II Development Bureau Notices that will explain TEAMS II usage. Any further questions should be directed to TEAMS II Development Bureau at (213) 847-8900.

As you are aware, full compliance with the Consent Decree continues to be a primary goal of mine for this Department. A priority of the Decree itself is to emphasize the role of managers and supervisors with the intended result of improved and consistent quality oversight. Reforms like TEAMS II require a proactive "best business practice" approach to supervision. We have made a commitment to the communities we serve, to provide policing that is compassionate, consistent and constitutional. The people of the City of Los Angeles deserve no less, and you, the men and women of the LAPD, deserve a workplace free from those who would tarnish the badge. We must embrace the TEAMS II system as a "best practice" in managing our workplace.

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Tim Sands

continued from page 4

Type	Old Plan	New Plan
CR Attorney representation in course and scope criminal prosecution where the City Attorney refuses representation.	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	Enhanced Legal Plan members would be provided with an attorney with Board approval.
PR Penalty Reimbursement	Enhanced Legal Plan members are reimbursed up to 22 suspension days per year.	Enhanced Legal Plan members are reimbursed up to 25 suspension days per year.
DA Brady Alert System entry	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	Enhanced Plan Members would be provided with an attorney to object in writing to the District Attorney under the District Attorney Brady Alert System Protocol.
Pitchess Motions Representation of officer where the City Attorney recommends that the officer have a personal representative at a hearing.	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	Enhanced Legal Plan Members would be provided with an attorney to represent them at the Pitchess Motion.
Contempt of Court Issues Duty Related	Not currently covered under the Enhanced Legal Plan.	Enhanced Legal Plan Members would be provided with an attorney to represent them at contempt of court hearings.

Take care, be safe!

Ted Hunt

continued from page 5

crime and the erosion of California's economic foundation. It is a classic example of tripping over dollars to pick up nickels – penny wise and pound foolish.



Tim Yaryan, League's Legislative Advocate, in Sacramento with Mrs. Terry March, widow of slain Deputy David March, at a recent gathering of concerned public law enforcement employees at the State Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Sacramento.

League Joins Effort to Stop Gang Violence

Gangs and gang violence are among law enforcement's most serious problems. Much of the problem is focused on young men who confuse violence, greed and a flashy lifestyle with being a man. A man cannot be a man unless he

sent to him, the young man must make decisions, often without the benefit of solid and positive role models. As the young man toys on the fringes of the gangs, he is looking for a place to belong. He wants the feeling of intrinsic value and worth.

At this juncture he is on the cusp, a point of transition from childhood to either productive manhood or toward degenerate gang-hood. That is where the Hero Appreciation Network (HAN) comes in.

HAN was started to "promote good will and trust between youth-at-risk" and the rest of society by offering an opportunity for kids-on-the-cusp to learn the skills necessary to earn a decent living and to understand the intrinsic value of honest work.

Russell Lee, the founder and president of HAN, reported that his organization conducted a survey of colleges, technical institutions, and career guidance schools who all said that "100% of their graduates never ended up in a street gang. We needed to figure out a way to redirect kids-on-the-cusp away from gangs toward economic stability and manhood."

HAN started a program to offer scholarships to youth-at-risk. Lee said, "The grants will allow young men to obtain an education of their choice, fitting them for success in the work force, keeping them motivated and off the streets and out of gang peer pressure and gang recruitment."

The League has joined forces with Boeing and Rotary International to support the Hero Appreciation Network by collecting inkjet printer and photo-

1082. (SA05RF0007)

Prohibition on Defined Benefit Public Pensions. Alternative Plans. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Summary Date: 02/28/05 Circulation Deadline: 07/28/05 Signatures Required 598,105

Proponent: Jon Coupal (916) 444-9950

Prohibits state and local public agencies, including school districts, state universities, from providing defined benefit pensions (benefit determined by age, years of service, salary) to employees hired after July 1, 2007. Eliminates death, disability benefits for such employees. Thereafter, permits only defined contribution plans (benefit determined by contributions, interest, investment earnings, minus fees and expenses). Limits agency's contributions to 6% of employee's salary (9% for sworn police officers, full-time firefighters, and those not contributing to Social Security). Requires employee contribution when employer contribution exceeds 3% of salary. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments. Over the long term, major reduction in state and local government retirement costs for employees hired after July 1, 2007, offset to an unknown extent by increased costs for other types of employee compensation. In the shorter term, unknown net impact on public employer costs related to the closing out of existing defined benefit plans. The fiscal effect would depend on the decisions of both retirement boards and existing government employees.

has a job that offers him both decent pay and a feeling of intrinsic worth. There are exceptions, such as incapacitation and debilitating illness.

In discussing only young men in this scenario, it is with the understanding that the phenomenon of outrageous, senseless and violent gang activity, primarily involves young men.

There is a point in a young boy's life when he searches for self identification, when he searches for manhood. Who am I? What kind of man do I want to be?

When strong gang influences are pre-

copier cartridges to be recycled, with the funds going to the scholarship foundation. "We need to give our young people a chance at hope and opportunity," Lee said. "Please join the League, Boeing and Rotary International in supporting this great cause. Collect your inkjet cartridges and photocopier cartridges for us so we can convert them into scholarships and keep at risk youth out of gangs." Call Russell Lee at (805) 522-4433 for additional information.

Chapman University: Special Program for Law Enforcement Officers

The LAPPL is forming a partnership with Chapman University that is expected to begin in the fall of 2005. Chapman University will offer its 36 credit, Masters of Arts degree in Criminal Justice at the Los Angeles Police Academy site at a special reduced tuition rate. The program includes a graduate certificate in Administration and Leadership of Criminal Justice Organizations. For more information contact Ted Hunt at jtedhunt@aol.com or (213) 792-0536.

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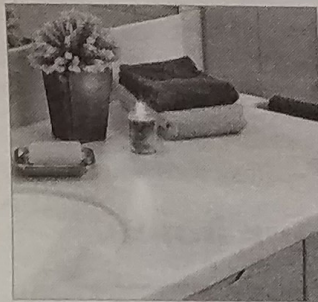
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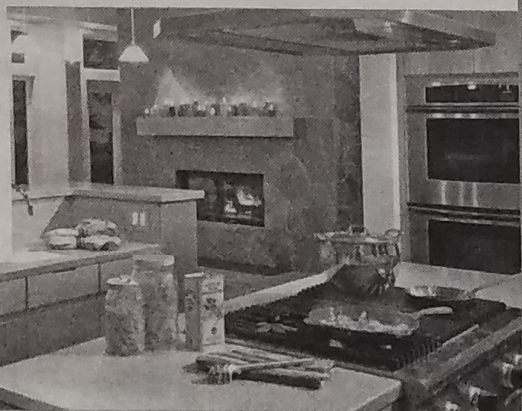
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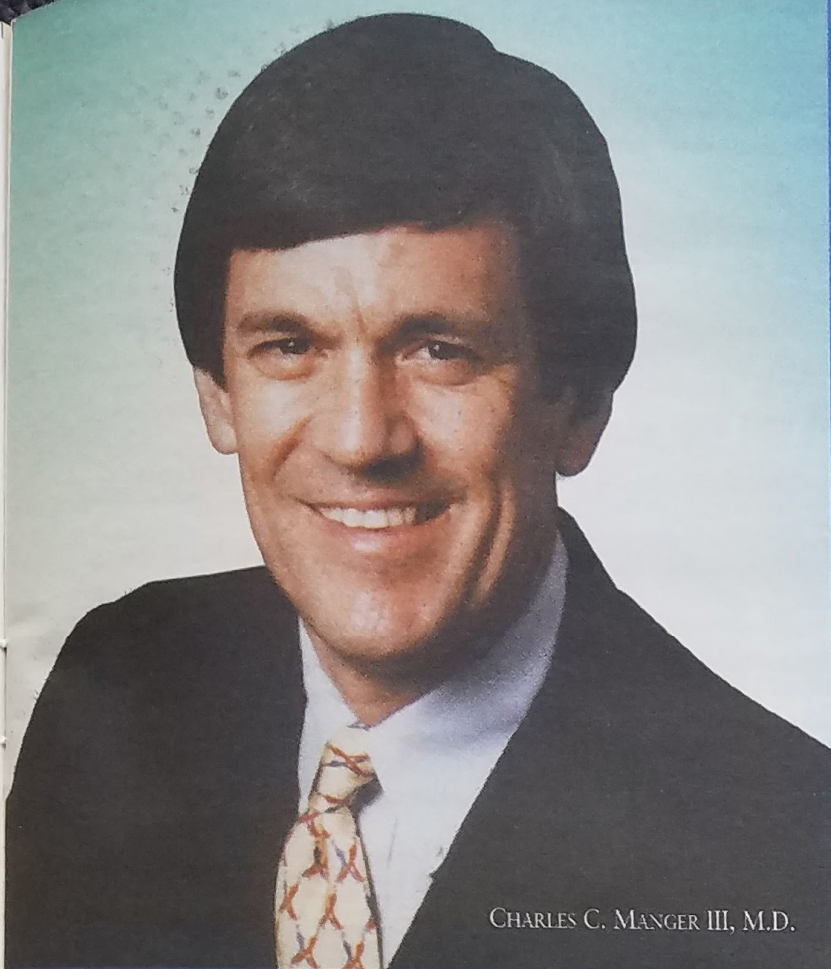
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Corina Lee

continued from page 9

story on the shooting, described Brown as "unarmed." This is true in the sense that Brown did not have a gun, but if he was in fact attempting to run Garcia down, as Garcia has reportedly offered as his rationale for firing, then Brown was armed with quite a weapon indeed. And not until the final paragraph does the story mention that Brown's car collided with the police car. The extensive damage to the police car was not described.

Other details of the coverage also tilt sympathy away from the police.

In a Feb. 9 story about the shooting, a minister was quoted describing Brown as an "honor student." The story was accompanied by a picture of a cherubic Brown (taken years earlier, apparently) in the cap and gown of a graduation ceremony. This only added to the already growing perception that an innocent

child had been gunned down without cause. Brown's foundering academic record was more accurately described in a story the following day, perhaps too late to influence the opinions already formed.

A Feb. 11 story on the shooting quoted Bob Baker, President of the Los Angeles Police Protective League, the union that represents rank-and-file officers. Baker spoke of a case in San Diego in which a defendant recently pleaded guilty to killing a San Diego police officer by running him down with a stolen truck. Though Baker's quote helped to provide some context to Garcia's actions in the Brown shooting, I would have hoped to see a fuller account of this San Diego case.

In fact, if *The Times* were interested in presenting a balanced picture of the Brown shooting, it might run a story about the 21 police officers who were deliberately struck by cars and killed in the United States in the last five years.

Then there is *The Times'* dubious selection of sources on this tinderbox

topic. As a writer, I can understand the desire to pepper a story with colorful quotes, but must *The Times* be so accommodating to the rants of Rep. Maxine Waters? Recall that it was Waters who led the effort to excuse the rioters who in 1992 put much of Los Angeles to the torch. In the current controversy she is being no less provocative.

The Times quoted Waters as urging the community to "demand justice and become even more creative in ways to shame the establishment for tolerating this kind of abuse in our city." If I ever read that a *Times* reporter had called Waters to account for these or any of her inflammatory remarks, I might even consider subscribing again.

In 1992, *The Times'* then-media critic, David Shaw, reported that one cause of what came to be known as the Rodney King riots was the public's expectation that the four officers involved in King's arrest would be convicted. This expectation, Shaw said, may have been raised because Los Angeles media outlets,

including *The Times*, tended to dismiss or underreport those details that favored the officers' defense.

When the story of the Devin Brown shooting is finally concluded, will *The Times* have made the same mistake? If the city again goes up in flames, will *The Times* shoulder any of the blame?

Jack Dunphy is a pseudonym for a Los Angeles police officer who writes for the *National Review Online*.

Updated Information Regarding Administrative Transfers

It has come to my attention that the officers who were administratively transferred from Southeast were all notified of their transfers a week or more prior, during individual meetings they had with the Division Captains. Please refer to my March *Blue Line* article.

Hank Hernandez

continued from page 13

3. I survived the incident. Partly due to my training and tactics. Partly due to God's grace and blind luck. But the other side of the coin is that I got into this incident because of my training. I switched immediately into "cop" mode without stopping to consider that I was at a great tactical disadvantage. Most of us are driven and dedicated to the point of self destruction and I think good cops die because we are taught to place our personal safety second when others are in danger.

Because I had never trained real-

istically for a situation like this, I was unprepared. Most of the guys I worked with then and now carry off-duty weapons. But few of them, if any, have really taken the time to engage in realistic training and preparation for how to handle an off-duty incident.

Training can be as simple as discussing these types of situations with our co-workers. Since this shooting, I have devoted at least one quarterly range session with my students to off-duty encounters and the associated considerations.

4. The responsibility of carrying a firearm is huge. I had devoted countless hours to training for the fight, but was not fully prepared for the aftermath.

None of the training scenarios, books, films, etc. that I learned from touched upon the fact that when you take that gun out and decide to take action, 9-year-old kids can get killed. Even if you do everything by the book, use good tactics, and are within policy and the law, the outcome can still be negative.

You have to remember that the suspect does not go to the range and he does not practice rules of weapons safety. He does not care about what's in his line of fire. If it's you or him, you gotta do what you gotta do, but whether you're on-duty or off-duty we need to train to look at the totality of the incident. Letting the bad guy go because doing otherwise would place innocent people in grave danger needs to be more "socially acceptable" amongst our ranks. I think we're starting to see more of this in the pursuit policies of most agencies and have tried to carry this message over into my training and teaching.

I guess the bottom line here is that it's good to be on "auto pilot" when it comes to tactics in these situations, but we can't go on auto pilot in our assessment and examination of the environment and circumstances leading up to and during the event. On-duty mind-set and off-duty mind-set need to be strongly separated and the boundaries clear.

— A California Sergeant

Caught Without A Gun, A Bluff Works ... This Time

My partner and I had attended the day's festivities during National Police Memorial Week in Washington D.C., a few years ago, and were walking back to our hotel across town at about 11:45 p.m. I was then an officer with the Chicago Housing Authority P.D. Neither of us was armed, having left our guns at the hotel. We were in civilian dress.

As we approached an intersection, we noticed groups of males standing on all four corners. As we got closer, they all left their positions and approached (surrounded) us. There were about nine of them.

Knowing what was potentially going to take place, and having nothing else to rely on but my training and God, I merely reached my hand under my jacket at my side, pretended to make a weapon adjustment, and brought my hands to waist level in the fashion one would when making a field contact. I then, in my best field-contact voice said, "Good evening, gentlemen. Is there something

we can help you with?"

Immediately the looks in their faces changed. The predatory looks in their eyes turned to looks of uncertainty and fear. They began parting, and walking away. One of the group, I'm guessing the leader, said, "Uh, no sir... OFFICER."

As we resumed walking, my partner and I acknowledged that this had been a close one. Sighs of relief followed. What we couldn't believe is that here we were, in the nation's capital with tens of thousands of police officers, and we had almost been robbed, assaulted, or worse.

I've looked back on that situation several times, and I've come to this conclusion:

My partner and I must have initially appeared to be your average tourists in the D.C. area. Easy prey. It's hard not to have this appearance when in an unfamiliar place. What saved us was the ability to get back into "police mode"—bladed stance, hands up, donning the attitude of being calmly in charge (even though we clearly were not).

My hand gesture inside of my jacket gave the impression that I was armed, but ultimately, what made these thugs decide to move on to easier pickings was the fact that they realized they were about to confront two law enforcement officers. They knew there was a fair chance we'd fight back, and possibly kill one or more of them in the process.

Since then, I've vowed not to travel anywhere unarmed. Church, to the grocery store, anywhere. Period. Unless you've come face to face with that feeling of helplessness, being seriously outnumbered by those who mean you harm, you won't understand the comfort a firearm can bring from the knowledge that, if ALL ELSE FAILS, you stand a fair chance of seeing your family again, after the confrontation.

The question becomes: Would we have done anything differently that night had we been armed?

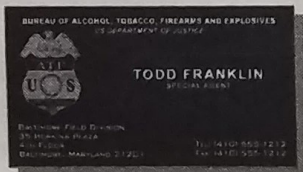
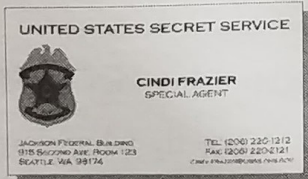
Truthfully, I don't know. I can only guess that I would have acted the same way, but would have defiantly pulled and used my weapon had my actions failed to get a favorable response.

— Detective, Vancouver (WA) P.D.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the League if you need any information or have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of our activities.

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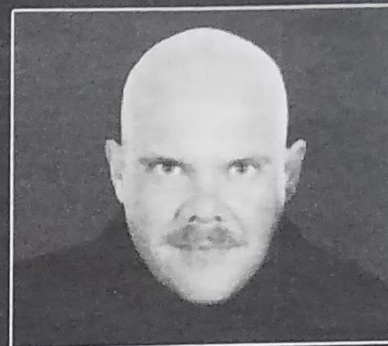
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Gary Ingemunson

continued from page 14

bulletin before you deploy the baton, not after.

So, now you have caught the suspect, the next step is to clean him. And that is the next area of concern.

Writing the Report

Remember the Rodney King case? The prosecutor had huge blowups of the officer's reports on tripod stands in front of the jury as the officers testified. Every word, or missing word, in the report was examined, cross-examined, re-examined, and agonized over, in the attempt to convict the officers. That is how important a report can become.

The name of the game is "inconsistencies." Your reports must be accurate. If they are not accurate, they will be used as a tool against you. It is even more complicated than that. Consider a typical Non-categorical Use of Force. A suspect becomes Aggressive/Combative and you deliver a distraction strike and take him into custody. You write an arrest report about the incident. The sergeant investigating the Non-categorical Use of Force interviews you and your partner and two other witness officers who were at the scene. The sergeant writes what he thinks everyone said in his Use of Force report.

We now have your arrest report about the incident and a Use of Force report that has four other versions of what the sergeant thinks he heard officers say about the incident. The suspect then makes a personnel complaint about how you falsely arrested him. This goes immediately to Internal Affairs who do their investigation of the suspect's allegations. They interview you, your partner, and the two witnessing officers, on tape about the incident. They write a personnel complaint investigation with their paraphrase of what you and the other officers said.

We now have four paraphrased statements of what the Internal Affairs investigators think the officers said, four tape-recorded interviews of the incident, four paraphrased statements of what the Use of Force sergeant thought he heard, and your arrest report. You then go to a preliminary hearing and you and your partner testify about the incident.

We now have two transcripts of court testimony, four paraphrased statements of what the Internal Affairs investigators think the officers said, four tape-recorded interviews, four paraphrased statements of what the Use of Force sergeant thought he heard, and your arrest report about the incident. The suspect then files a lawsuit. You, your partner, and the two witnessing officers, are deposed.

We now have four transcripts of depositions, two transcripts of court testimony, four paraphrased statements of what the Internal Affairs investigators think the officers said, four tape-recorded interviews, four paraphrased statements of what the Use of Force sergeant thought he heard, and your arrest report about the incident.

You now climb up on the stand in front of a civil jury in the lawsuit with a six-foot high, four-foot wide blow up of your arrest report on a tripod between you and the jury and see the two-foot tall stack of documents neatly indexed in front of the plaintiff's attorney who

is about to cross-examine you. Do you wish you had taken more care to make the report complete and accurate?

However, no matter how careful you are, when someone takes the time to analyze the four transcripts of depositions, two transcripts of court testimony, four paraphrased statements of what the Internal Affairs investigators think the officers said, four tape-recorded interviews, four paraphrased statements of what the Use of Force sergeant thought he heard, and your arrest report about the incident, they WILL be able to find conflicts. That brings me to the next major concern.

False and/or Misleading Statements

Whenever there is a conflict between your statement, written or oral, and other witness statements or physical evidence, the Department has the option of charging you with false and/or misleading statements. Whether the Department does this or not largely turns on whether the Department believes there was a deliberate attempt to deceive, however, there is always the danger that politics may also rear its ugly head in high visibility cases or where the Department is taking a personal interest in your administrative demise for some reason.

Charges of false and/or misleading statements almost always lead to being sent to a Board of Rights for termination. The reason is that, forever after, criminal defendants will be able to impeach your testimony in court by parading your conviction for false and/or misleading statements in front of the jury. From the Department's view, you are damaged goods. One of your essential functions as a police officer is the ability to testify against criminal defendants. If you have a so-called "Brady" problem, your ability to testify effectively has been diminished.

For this reason, accuracy in all your report writing and statements is of paramount importance. Even then, you can be sure that at least the plaintiff's attorneys and criminal defense attorneys will be highly motivated to take each and every conflict, real or imagined, and attempt to convince juries that you are lying and covering up police misconduct. This leads to a couple of other issues.

District Attorney Brady Alert System

"Brady" refers to a Supreme Court case that requires a prosecutor to turn over any potential exculpatory information in the possession of the prosecution team that may assist the criminal defendant in his defense. Information about acts of misconduct relating to moral turpitude or showing lack of honesty known to the prosecutor are required to be made known to the criminal defendant.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has a computer system containing the names of officers that they consider to have Brady problems. A sustained charge of false and/or misleading statements makes you eligible to get placed in that database. What does it mean if you are in the database? Well, any Deputy District Attorney putting on a criminal case has the obligation of running the police officer witnesses through the database. If there is a "hit," the Deputy District Attorney must

notify the criminal defense attorney of the information in the database about you. You can be sure that this information will be used against you at trial to impeach your credibility.

Prior to putting the information in the database, the District Attorney's Office will send you a letter notifying you of their intention to place you in the database and the reason for doing so. You have 30 days to challenge their decision in writing. If you do not challenge the decision, or the District Attorney's Office does not believe your written challenge has merits, you go in the database. A letter is then sent to the Department notifying them that you are in the database. The Department forwards this letter to the Risk Management Division and you will be reviewed for your continued ability to work the field.

Related to the Brady problem is the Pitchess Motion problem.

Pitchess Motions

The Pitchess Motion is another way that criminal defendant's try to get into your personnel package. Again, they are looking for material to attack your credibility. Pitchess Motions are far more invasive, but are limited to the previous five years. Pitchess Motions cover all allegations made against you, regardless of their ultimate disposition, in fact, allegations that have not been investigated are also included in the judge's review. A Deputy City Attorney attends the Pitchess Motion to defend your personnel records. You also have a right to attend the hearing.

The new tactic being used by the criminal defense attorneys is to file a sealed motion. The Deputy City Attorney can read the motion, but they cannot reveal its contents to the Deputy District Attorney or the involved officer because the defendant does not want the prosecution team to know his trial tactics. This makes it pretty hard to defend the officer's personnel records because the Deputy City Attorney cannot share the merits of the motion with the officer so the officer can rebut the defendant's theory.

The Deputy City Attorney then notifies the officer that he, or she, must appear as an individual in the Pitchess motion to protect his, or her, personal rights in the confidentiality of the personnel records. It is not clear that even then the officer can read the sealed motion from the defendant, but probably the officer's attorney can.

Any information deemed relevant by the judge after an in-camera hearing is then given to the criminal defendant for purposes of impeachment.

Contempt of Court

You and your partner have been subpoenaed to court. Unfortunately, the day of appearance is in the middle of a string of days off and you are going to be at the river toasting marshmallows over an open fire. You tell your partner about your predicament and he says he can "handle it." So, you pack your wienie sticks and off to the river you go. When you return you are surprised to find there is a bench warrant for your arrest. The charge? Failure to appear. Yes, it can be a crime to fail to appear on a subpoena for an officer as well as a defendant. The judge is unimpressed with you and your partner's "deal" about handling the case.

You appear and (usually) you are released without bail pending a hearing. The hearing will determine if you are to be fined or jailed.

Grand Juries

This is a subpoena of a different color. Generally, you, or your partner, are the target of the grand jury for some sort of excessive force, or criminal violation of civil rights. Your testimony is required if you are subpoenaed. You cannot have an attorney with you in front of the grand jury when you are being questioned by the prosecutor, although you have the right to have an attorney in the hallway to counsel you prior to the testimony. If you take the fifth, the Department can terminate you.

And, of course, now you have a grand jury transcript to add to the four transcripts of depositions, two transcripts of court testimony, four paraphrased statements of what the Internal Affairs investigators think the officers said, four tape-recorded interviews, four paraphrased statements of what the Use of Force sergeant thought he heard, and your arrest report about the incident.

Any conflicts can now be interpreted as perjury.

District Attorney Investigator and FBI Interviews

Many times District Attorney Investigators or FBI agents will want to interview officers prior to the use of a grand jury. They are usually investigating excessive force claims or violation of constitutional rights claims against an officer, or officers. You are mandated by the LAPD manual and case law to cooperate with these investigations, but you are allowed to have an attorney (not an employee representative, however). Usually, the attorney will make it clear that you are being compelled to cooperate in the investigation for your own protection.

Again, accuracy is the operative word. A false statements to an FBI agent is actually a federal criminal offense. There are also obstruction of justice statutes and a variety of other things criminal that can be used against an officer by the prosecutors if they believe the officer has been less than truthful.

Mine Detector

If you are going to walk through a minefield, it is prudent to take a mine detector with you, in other words, an employee representative or a League attorney. It is better not to step on the mine in the first place rather than try to patch up shrapnel holes later. With this in mind, the League has expanded the Enhanced Legal Program AT NO INCREASE IN COST to include attorney representation to challenge being placed in the District Attorney's Brady Alert System, attorney representation at Pitchess Motions where the City Attorney is unable to represent you due to sealed motions, attorney representation at contempt hearings as the result of failure to appear, attorney representation concerning grand jury subpoenas, attorney representation at District Attorney investigator or FBI interviews investigating course and scope misconduct, and other increased benefits.

Join now. The administrative life you save may be your own.

Be legally careful out there.



LAPPL Legislative Corner

by Tim Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

For League members, the single biggest legislative or political issue we face in 2005 is the direct attack on your pensions!

Assemblymember Keith Richman, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, among others, have you and your families' welfares in their political gunsights. Beginning July, 2007, they want to force all newly hired police officers and other public employees into privately managed stock retirement accounts. Because of poor drafting or planning, the Richman Initiative will also prohibit death and disability payments for the families of peace officers because it makes any form of direct benefit illegal.

The misinformation the sponsors of the initiative are giving the public is scandalous, but the threat is very real! As an example, a major backer of this initiative, Governor Schwarzenegger, sent out an invitation asking me to please join him and some of his friends at a Mar. 14 fundraiser, and get this - if you pop for \$100,000 to support these "Citizens to Save California," you can be a "Dinner Chair" and get up to four photos with the Governor. A \$50,000 "Dinner Co-chair" contribution will get you two photos. The least expensive ticket, \$10,000, sets you up with a "bargain basement" photo with Arnold. Although I don't know of any peace officers who can pay that tariff, don't think for a minute that he won't raise millions of dollars from this event to support Richman's initiative to privatize your pensions! The event is "Benefiting the Citizens to Save California" who are, in fact, the Chamber of Commerce, the California Taxpayers Association, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, the California Business Properties Association and several other similar groups. These folks are out to save California from "special interests," namely, YOU and other peace officers, firefighters, and dedicated public employees whose pension costs, THEY SAY, are devastating government budgets throughout California!

What an absolute crock! According to respected financial experts at CalPERS, CalSTRS, and LACERA, forcing new employees into private 401(k)-type stock market retirement accounts will actually create huge transition costs of over \$7.6 billion for the State of California's pension systems for cops, firefighters, teachers and other public employees. The Los Angeles County Employee Retirement Agency (LACERA)'s accountants and actuaries project an additional \$1.29 billion in transition costs for Los Angeles County alone, and warn that the County won't see any net savings for the next 20 years.

The question you should now ask is NOT how is our budget situation

is actually HELPED by the Richman Initiative's piling on billions of dollars in new costs (obviously, it won't), rather, it's "where will my retirement money be going and how will I benefit?"

Based on the experience of other states, you won't benefit. The state of Nebraska recently converted back to a defined benefit (DB) plan from a defined contribution (DC) plan similar to Richman's. The Nebraska study showed that, after 30 years, the typical worker in a DC plan posted an average annual return of only 6% to 7%, while money managers running the previous traditional pension (DB) plan posted 11% average annual returns. Even though Nebraska made much effort to help individuals invest wisely, half of all employees stayed in the DB fund, even when offered 11 choices. Nebraska was so concerned that the state was wasting taxpayer money from matching contributions that it repealed the DC plan. In Florida, where employees could leave the DB plan for the 401(k)-style plan, most opted to stay in the traditional DB pension program. Kansas studied a DC proposal, but found that "conversion from the current defined benefit plans for Kansas public employees would NOT result in lower employer contributions...nor (would it) eliminate past unfunded liability, which must continue to be amortized to provide benefits previously promised."

Ironically, many private employers have seen the same benefit. The American Benefits Council reports that a great number of large and medium private companies prefer DB plans as a primary recruitment and retention tool. Recently SBC reinstated its defined benefit plan after a hiatus of several years. Other examples of major corporations offering defined benefit pension plans include such corporate giants as Chevron, Unocal, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Albertson's, Boise Cascade, Louisiana Pacific, Safeco, and Weyerhaeuser.

You won't be hearing much about those basic facts about direct contribution failures from the Richman/Schwarzenegger folks in the coming months, however. The rhetoric you will be hearing and seeing on TV in the next few months will be something spun more like this: "The 'special interest' union bosses have become accustomed to dictating the labor agenda through their use of union dues to elect lawmakers and local officials who would toe the union line. Because of scant opposition they have guaranteed their members 'millionaire' pensions at taxpayers' expense."

This kind of allegation you will soon see on TV would be laughable, if it weren't such a BIG LIE! What's the actual (and documented) TRUTH?

Currently, CalPERS estimates that the average monthly benefit paid to all retirees is \$1,669. Some 400,000 retired California police, firefighters, garbage workers, school employees and health professionals receive an average CalPERS benefit of \$19,128 per year. That's barely

above the national average of \$1,500 per month for public employees, but given California's high costs of living, an annual pension of only \$20,000 is hardly "lavish." The average age for retirement from public service in California is 60. Granted, there are a few men and women who will draw large pensions and have worked for the state or other public agencies for many years at the top level of government. However, combined, there are less than 1,000 CalPERS beneficiaries, 0.0025%, who are at this level, out of a total 400,000 retirees in the system.

So what, you say, this won't affect me. Hey, I'm sorry for those new hires after 2007, but I've got mine!

Well, not so fast my friend!

Under the Richman/Schwarzenegger plan, current employees are also at significant risk, because while, legally, their benefits will not change, the cost to provide those benefits will dramatically go up! Current benefits are partially funded by the revenue stream from newer, younger employees entering the system. The Richman/Schwarzenegger privatization plan dries up this revenue stream, eventually creating a huge unfunded liability! Senior employees could adversely be affected in the following ways, as the system seeks to absorb lower returns and increased costs of operating two retirement systems:

- *Employee contributions could be increased.

- *Retiree cost of living raises will be decreased or eliminated.

- *Future raises could be absorbed into new pension-related costs.

- *Other ancillary benefits, such as health care benefits, will be reduced or eliminated.

- *In a worse case scenario, your retirement system could be forced into bankruptcy or otherwise be unable to meet its legal obligations to you, its retired members. That monthly retirement check you're counting on may eventually not be there!

After 9/11, it's a shame that you and your families are again asked to sacrifice. Only this time, your sacrifice

will only benefit the wealthy backers of the "Citizens to Save California." Teri March, the widow of Los Angeles Deputy Dave March, came to Sacramento to testify last week about how the families of slain officers depend on the death and disability benefits that will be eliminated after 2007. *Imagine the family of a Los Angeles police officer, with only five years experience in the department, having to live on five years' worth of annual direct contributions! That's what Richman/Schwarzenegger offer with this Howard Jarvis-backed pension initiative! Elimination of death and disability benefits!*

I hope Governor Schwarzenegger takes a long hard look at the misguided pension policy he's supporting. If protecting those peace officers who put their lives on the line to protect and serve our communities every day isn't a good enough reason, then, Governor Schwarzenegger, consider what this pension proposal will do to California's economy. California's economy will suffer because CalPERS, CalSTRS, LACERA and other '37 Act and Charter City pension systems invest over \$35 billion annually in the California economy. CalPERS, alone, is one of California's largest real estate developers, financing 40,000 new homes and thousands of good paying, middle class jobs. *Do you really think Wall Street will, on a dollar for dollar basis, return the same investment back into the California economy?*

Governor, if you really want us to get out of the state's "budget hole," then save the estimated \$7.6 billion hit for "startup costs" on the state's budget that your proposal is estimated to cost; ensure that public employee retirement dollars will be reinvested back into the California economy, rather than where the Wall Street money managers dictate; and, most importantly, learn from Nebraska and the other states that have dumped their DC plans. Put this ill advised pension proposal where it belongs - in the trashcan!

Until next time, stay safe!

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Letters

to the editor

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. **Letters must be limited to 350 words or less.** Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Mar. 3, 2005

Detective Bob Baker
President, Los Angeles Police Protective League

Dear Bob:

I felt it important to take the time to personally thank you, and the Board of Directors, for the important and crucial role you played in the development of last month's revision to the Shooting at/from Moving Vehicles Policy. As Delegates and League members, we often forget to show our appreciation to the Board for fighting the good fight, for fiercely defending and protecting the membership and the benefits negotiated on our behalf, for sticking your necks out so that we may remain in the background, silent and protected.

I am deeply concerned over the recent hysteria by some of the membership over this "new" policy, and by the perception that has been bandied about by members and Delegates alike, that the Board of Directors has "sold out the membership" — a perception completely the opposite of what I observed last month, and on several other occasions as well. I personally witnessed you, Bob, testifying intelligently and vehemently before the Police Commission on the points of disagreement over the original version of the policy that the Police Commission considered on Feb. 15, 2005. I also recognize the lobbying "behind the scenes" that took place, contributing to the

revised version of the policy adopted by the Police Commission on Feb. 16.

I urge my fellow Delegates to not feed this hysteria, but rather to be the voice of calm and reason, and *educate* the membership regarding the policy, which in reality hasn't change at all. It is merely better articulated and reflective of the training we have all received regarding use of deadly force and shooting at/from moving vehicles. **We still have the right to self defense**, and we still have the burden to prove that our discharge of a firearm was in *immediate defense of life*, taking into consideration those things we've been trained to consider: *BALKS*. Tell me, what has changed?

I would also urge the membership to not just take my word for it, but to find out for themselves and *read the policy*, or better yet, compare the Feb. 15 version with the Feb. 16 adopted version. That alone speaks volumes about this Board's dedication to the membership, and to the benefits of having developed the professional, mutually respectful, working relationship with the Chief of Police, the Police Commission, and City Hall, where "agreeing to disagree" doesn't mean the start of World War III, but rather results in good contracts and good benefits.

Thank you, again, Bob, keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Sergeant II Maria Y. Acosta

Serial #26584

Delegate, Office of the Chief of Police

"THIS JOB AIN'T THAT *\$%@! EASY"

God bless you all. Some years ago the late sportscaster Jim Healy taped a sound bite of an interview that then-Dodger manager Tommy Lasorda was giving. Mr. Lasorda was asked how he could have lost a game in the last inning. His succinct answer was "This job ain't that _____ easy." So, too, being the only elected member of the Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension Commission requires a lot of decision making and hard calls: firing consultants who do not perform, investing your \$12 billion fund appropriately — making real estate considerations, deciding upon disability applications and the like — is bound to make some individuals unhappy with me.

During the year last past, articles have appeared in this publication criticizing my work as your pension commissioner. Those articles have been both anonymous and unfactual. Yet, even if someone has the right to criticize me, they do not have a right to report to you lies as though it was the truth and ask you to act on *their knowing false presentation*. My point is that a retired sergeant recently had printed in this publication a "hate piece" regarding my work as the pension commissioner. As half of the current Los Angeles Police Department was not employed when that complaining sergeant retired and probably do not know much, if anything, about the deceased attorney Barry Levin who was mentioned in that complaint, I see some setting straight of the record in order.

That complaint indicated that the retired sergeant was warned before his pension hearing (noted in that article to be in 1992) to watch out for me, as the pension commissioner, by attorney Levin because "I didn't know what I was doing." An examination of history will show I was elected to the Protective League in 1990, promoted out of my director position to the rank of detective (late 1990) and then to sergeant (Jan., 2003). In 1992, Lt. Staggs, then of Newton Division, was the pension commissioner (until April, 1994). Therefore, it would have been impossible for me to have any effect on the complaining sergeant's application for a disability pension.

My relationship with Barry Levin was good, in my opinion. We first met when in 1984 during the Olympics, Metropolitan Officer Jimmy Wade Pearson became involved with an explosive facsimile. Working together, Barry defended him criminally and I defended him administratively (what there was of a Board of Rights). Barry Levin had me at his home for dinner with his family. We also did other joint Boards of Rights when an officer opted for both

legal counsel and a defense representative. The fact remains that during the period of April 1994-30 June 1995, and 1 Jan. 2000-present, as the pension commissioner, attorney Barry Levin only appeared before me with one case.

Why would the complaining retired sergeant make such an allegation now and ask you to throw me out of office when you again, in April of this year, will be asked to elect the sworn pension commissioner who will represent you for the next five years? I cannot testify as to what is in the mind of another, but I would suggest to you that it is retaliation against an inquiry I made into his medical status as the pension commissioner some time ago. I think you can figure out the timing of this letter. That complaining sergeant, upon retiring, became a television celebrity. One morning I observed him involved in activity on camera that made my heart leap for joy, for him, as we were well known to one another before he left the department. It was clear to me that either his medical problems were cured or his medical restrictions improved. Concurrently with that observation, the City of Los Angeles controller attended pension commission meetings and brought into question some of our practices (as it turned out that passed without incident). That television program for which the retired sergeant is working may have been seen by that City controller, so I got a tape of that activity and asked our staff to review it to ensure that the pension fund was not at risk. *It was reviewed and nothing more was done. Just for the record, if someone abuses the system (say it isn't so), my job is to have an investigation look into any possible abuse.*

Importantly, I think the membership needs to know just what the sworn, elected Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension Commissioner does.

My fiduciary duty is to assist in protecting and investing the \$12 billion pension fund, so that when you want to leave the department (and every one of you will one day leave this department), your "pot of gold" is there for you. I am also tasked with helping the fund grow to reduce the contributions of the plan sponsor: the City of Los Angeles.

I authorize investing in activity that works to keep the fund 100% funded, so that circumstances to not "kick in" that will increase your contributions. As well, I vote to terminate our associations with money managers who are not meeting their "benchmarks." I exercise my "veto" on real estate proposals that I do not find benefit the fund and you.

I review and vote on disability applications. You should know that the Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension Disability pension is *not* Workers' Compensation. They are two completely different concepts. Workers' Compensation makes you "whole" for work-related injuries. The pension disability is awarded for "inability to work," wherein the depart-

continued on page 23

IN MEMORIAM

LAPD - In the Line of Duty*

Name	Date of Death	Rank
D. BROOKS	04/08/10	Policeman
R. F. SHY	04/08/22	Detective Sergeant
R. MIOVER	04/11/25	Police Officer
L. LONG	04/18/29	Police Officer
P. MULLER	04/13/30	Policeman
PAUL DONATH	04/28/32	Policeman
F.G. PANER	04/14/47	Policeman
T.J. KENNEDY	04/05/51	Policeman
C.E. BOGARDUS	04/05/59	Policeman
CARL L. RIDDICK	04/23/70	Policeman
NORMAN D. ECKLES	04/20/89	Detective

*(Note: We are printing this listing each month, with the names of LAPD

Officers killed in the line of duty that month.)

Letters to the editor

continued from page 22

ment cannot accommodate the work restrictions, which a doctor places upon you. If that is because of something which occurred on the job, your pension (or a part of it) may be tax-free. If you have at least five years on the job and are injured off the job and cannot work, then you may qualify for a non-service connected disability.

I vote to provide for retirement and educational seminars related to upcoming and long-term retirement. The plan regularly sends out material to all of the membership on what is current and what is coming down the trail. I alternate, on a two-year rotation, with the elected, sworn Fire Commissioner, the duties as a board member of the Deferred Compensation Department.

Finally, know that your pension is on solid ground. If you want to know how I am doing as your sworn, elected Pension Commissioner, call someone at the Pension Commission, (213) 978-4550: Mr. Mattingly, General Manager; Mr. Griffiths, Assistant G.M.; Mr. Lopez, Investment Officer; Mr. Perez, Services Manager; Ms. Mary Washington, Retirement Services; Mr. Annula, Disabilities.

Please vote for someone in April 2005 for the Pension Commission position, because the city notices how many of you vote and determines from that how strong we are as an organization.

Sincerely,
Through Jesus Christ
Sgt. Thomas A. Dawson, Ph.D.

Dear Friends:

My name is Marc Joos, and I am a police inspector from the town of Antwerp (member of IPA Belgium). Since 1994, I'm the organizer of the WPFT (World Police Futsal Tournament).

A futsal (5-a-side-indoor) tournament is for police, fire brigades and customs.

This tournament had last November (2004) its 10th edition with 72 teams.

In the 10 years we had some teams from Russia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Poland, Czech Republic, England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Cyprus, Belgium, Luxemburg, Romania, Hungary, Moldavia, Bulgaria, Israel, Macedonia, Slovakia, Sicily, Ecuador, Island of St. Helena, Nigeria, Morocco, Australia and Malaysia.

Fifty-six men's teams (winners Ukraine) and 16 ladies' teams — police and non-police (winners Australia), (900 people) coming from 22 nations participated in this great party.

Since 2004, we started the Cheetah Women Futsal World Cup, an edition for women's teams! Australia won the first edition. Australia, Malaysia, Scotland, Germany, Spain, Holland, Belgium and Ukraine participated.

The next edition, the 11th, will be held from November 21 until 25, 2005.

Bermuda, Saudi Arabia, Monaco, Litvia, Estland, Japan, Faroer Islands and Islas Canarias have showed us interest to join us.

We think that our event isn't known in the USA, and for this we would like to ask your assistance.

More information concerning this

sports event you can find on our web site: www.polician.be, and further written questions through our e-mail: polician@skynet.be.

Please inform us about the possibilities. We thank you for your help already.

With respect,
Servo per amiceko
Marc Joos
Polician FV
World Police Futsal Tour
Nieuwdreef 127 Box 39
B 2170 Merksem
Belgium
Tel & Fax: +32-3.646.92.86
Mobile: +32-477.22.85.05

sparking5@msn.com

Hello:

This may be an odd request, but I am trying to contact a retired L.A. detective. My information is 25 years old. This detective, John Howze, would be my daughter's great uncle. My daughter is 25 years old. She has recently moved to L.A. from living in Michigan all her life and would like to meet some of her paternal family members.

If possible, and you can locate him, could you forward my contact info to him? I understand you would not want to give me this info.

I was married to his sister's son (1979-1980).

Info I have: John Howze, brother of Mary, uncle of Darius. Lived in Long Beach, Calif., maybe after he retired? His sister is 65, to give you an idea of his age. John Howze had a wife named Betty. I think I have spelled his name correctly. Again, I was given this info 25 years ago.

I will be arriving in L.A. this week to visit my daughter, and I thought this would be a good time to meet him and his family, if possible.

If you could forward this or give any suggestions, I would be grateful.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Pam Styles
(517) 740-7205 (cell)

I support the police in their actions with the 13-year-old that was shot and killed. Don't let it be a black issue; it is a breaking-the-law issue. The police do not have time to profile the person breaking the law while reacting in self defense. The black leaders should be up in arms that the kid was out at that hour of the night in the first place and should hold into account the parent for not having control over the child.

Is there anything that can be done to make people see that it is not a black issue?

Sincerely,
Susan Sellars

My daughter was left stranded at LAX Airport when her flight to Philadelphia was cancelled. She is an exchange

continued on page 24

END OF WATCH



(Note: Absent direct notification to the Los Angeles Police Protective League, we do not otherwise know of a member's death.)

NAME: George J. Sabol #5788
RANK: Policeman III
ASSIGNED TO: Jail Division
BORN: April 19, 1919
APPOINTED: June 28, 1948
RETIRED: March 27, 1976
DIED: February 23, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Amber G. Eisenhart #5480
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: SID
BORN: September 26, 1921
APPOINTED: April 26, 1948
RETIRED: July 16, 1968
DIED: June 16, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Verl L. Sipes #3176
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: AID
BORN: February 15, 1919
APPOINTED: October 18, 1943
RETIRED: October 19, 1963
DIED: November 29, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Donald D. Aboe #7040
RANK: Investigator I
ASSIGNED TO: Organized Crime Intelligence
BORN: June 22, 1922
APPOINTED: May 16, 1953
RETIRED: July 8, 1973
DIED: December 13, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Harvey J. Fuller #3431
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: University
BORN: February 5, 1919
APPOINTED: September 23, 1946
RETIRED: April 24, 1977
DIED: December 27, 2004

★ ★ ★

NAME: Billie C. Tibbs #5881
RANK: Investigator III
ASSIGNED TO: Detective Bureau
BORN: January 21, 1919
APPOINTED: September 14, 1948
RETIRED: April 10, 1976
DIED: January 6, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: John L. Brown #3061
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Central Jail
BORN: December 2, 1917
APPOINTED: September 28, 1942
RETIRED: October 1, 1966
DIED: January 7, 2005

NAME: Robert F. Kehoe #15849
RANK: Police Officer II
ASSIGNED TO: West Traffic
BORN: March 1, 1949
APPOINTED: March 23, 1970
RETIRED: October 23, 1981
DIED: January 13, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: Merrill L. Walker #3642
RANK: Lieutenant II
ASSIGNED TO: Narcotics
BORN: April 6, 1916
APPOINTED: September 23, 1946
RETIRED: October 12, 1975
DIED: January 16, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert A. Muldrew #14569
RANK: Detective II
ASSIGNED TO: Devonshire
BORN: July 6, 1947
APPOINTED: October 6, 1968
RETIRED: November 12, 1994
DIED: January 19, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: Martin A. Juhnke #4601
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: Van Nuys
BORN: January 17, 1924
APPOINTED: June 16, 1947
RETIRED: July 15, 1967
DIED: February 1, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert W. Rice #4386
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Valley
BORN: June 24, 1924
APPOINTED: March 16, 1967
RETIRED: October 23, 1981
DIED: February 3, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: Thomas A. De Temple #3406
RANK: Lieutenant
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: April 25, 1925
APPOINTED: July 22, 1946
RETIRED: January 17, 1972
DIED: February 12, 2005

★ ★ ★

NAME: George Sentman #5426
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: Bunco Forgery
BORN: January 26, 1917
APPOINTED: February 16, 1948
RETIRED: March 4, 1969
DIED: February 22, 2005

Letters to the editor

continued from page 23

student and was meant to fly on to Manchester and arrive on Sunday the 22nd of January in New Hampshire. No one met her at the airport from her flight from Japan and she was stranded, only 15 and from Tasmania, Australia. She asked some of your officers to help her and they arranged for her to stay in a hotel and they picked her up the next morning and took her to the airport and helped her on the flight. She arrived safely the next day at 9:30 p.m. in New Hampshire.

What I am trying to say is I am extremely grateful for their assistance to my daughter. She didn't know all their names, only Vince who was an African American, but may I say they are a credit to your organization and they have my gratitude. For without them, my daughter may have been lost, as no one from the student organization had bothered to check on the state of her flights, although 2,000 flights had been cancelled that weekend. You should be proud of these men; they are a credit to your police force, and these days not enough is said about the wonderful things your men do without credit and without acknowledgement. Thank you again. My daughter doesn't realize how close she came to being another statistic. If you ever find yourselves in Tasmania, Australia, you give us a call, Harper L, in the phone book (south of Tasmania). We will make you welcome.

Thank you again.

Regards,
Lynne Harper (extremely grateful
mum)

I appreciate you taking a moment to lay out the new policy. My first reaction to the policy was "give me a break!" Our hands are tied enough as it is! But to read your update was a shot in the arm and definite clarification for me. Thanks again for your outstanding service and commitment to giving us officers the backup we need.

Sincerely,
Robert Jenkins
Foothill Division

Remember, vehicles kill more people each year than guns in this country. A vehicle can be a deadly weapon. Keep them focused on the facts. Thanks for all you guys do for us.

Jorge Gonzalez

Dear Editor:

The L.A. Times article regarding the recent shooting of a homeless man's dog left a couple of questions unanswered, which true to the type of reporting the Times does about the Department, is thought to be irrelevant by editors. First, the city of Los Angeles has a leash law, which requires dogs that are out in public be leashed. Was Teri (the dog) on a leash? Second, the article quoted the animal rescue founders, Lori Weise and Richard Tuttlemondo, saying the officer's actions were "excessive and dangerous to the entire neighborhood." But

more importantly, the article quoted Lori Weise as saying, "If they felt threatened, why didn't they just Mace her?" Weise said, "Postmen do it every day." Did she really mean to say that postmen Mace Teri, the pit bull, every day, and she was not a threat to people, or did she mean postmen Mace dogs every day in general? That tells me that the dog may not have been on a leash, which is not only a violation of the law, but such dereliction by a dog owner placed the dog in a situation where it could become a threat to people.

Just like the recent shooting of the 13-year-old boy, let's all avoid personal responsibility and blame others, or better yet, let's blame the LAPD. So far, no one has asked the child's mother where she was and what she was doing while her child was out driving a stolen car at 4 a.m. Community leaders blame the LAPD officer for shooting a "child" for "joyriding." The young man wasn't shot for joyriding. He was shot in the act of committing assault with a deadly weapon (the vehicle), which is a felony crime, against a police officer. Whether the young man was pointing a firearm at the officer or driving a vehicle toward him is indifferent. The officer is allowed by law to defend himself.

There is a solution to issue of use of force by police officers in Los Angeles: education. I suggest that LAPD management task its Senior Lead Officers (sorry, ladies and gentlemen) citywide to hold education meetings in community centers, school auditoriums, and other public community gatherings. These education meetings should be an effort to educate the community about three important issues that dictate police use of force: 1) Police officers are authorized by law to use force to make an arrest, prevent escape, and protect themselves or others from serious bodily injury or death; 2) Persons are prohibited by law from resisting arrest or refusing to comply with officers' demands, regardless whether they think the officer is justified or not; and finally, 3) Assaulting officers with an object or weapon (vehicles, baseball bats, automobiles, knives) likely to cause serious bodily injury or death will result in the officer using his/her firearm or other means to stop the threat.

Once the community has been educated about these there issues, we must then hold individual community members accountable for their own actions. I can guarantee with 100% certainty that LAPD police officers will not use force against anyone, no matter the color of their skin or social status, if they comply with officers' commands and submit to arrest. Police officers are tasked with enforcing the law, and expecting them to just walk away when an individual attempts to escape or attempts to attack them is just not an option.

Now a bit of advice to department management. Stop scuttling and running around trying to appease every vocal member of the community with an agenda. At every opportunity, remind the community of those three points I mentioned and the fact that no one has the right to resist arrest and expect that the police will just go away. Also, in the spirit of Compstat, we have just found a way to reduce violent crime another couple of percentage points. Next time a community member calls 911 and reports an ADW with a vehicle, we

will inform them that department management, the Police Commission, and Mayor Hahn just decreed that vehicles are no longer a threat of serious bodily injury or death to persons. Henceforth ADW with a vehicle is no longer a reportable crime. Since police officers are a mirror image of the community, what's good for them is good for the community.

Sincerely,
Sgt. André Belotto, #26189
Pacific Community Police Station

Dear Editor:

I am hoping some of your readers can assist me. My father is a retired LAPD officer, Dick Green, who was Captain at 77th Division in the late '60s. In August, 1968, an "incident" broke out in the 77th Division area — a subsequent incident to the Watts Riot. During the episode, the 77th was literally under siege with sandbags and sharpshooters along her rooftop to protect the building and her officers. All the while, LAPD's chopper was over the scene, drawing fire from below to allow the officers on the street a chance to take cover and shining their spot on the perpetrators to assist the sharpshooters in returning fire. Due to the bravery of this proud department's officers, and specifically the pilots of the helicopter, the incident was put down that evening, and by morning there was no sight of the prior night's rampage. The streetlights, which had been shot out by Lt. George Morrison for the preservation of his fellow officers, had been replaced, and all vehicles involved had been towed away. Then Lt. A. D. Proudfoot from CRA and Lt. P. Franey from Wilshire filed reports regarding the incident on Aug. 26 and Aug. 27, 1968, respectively, as well as then Captain F. A. Phillips from Rampart who sent intra-department correspondence to then Inspector M. W. Howe of Tactical Operations Planning Group. As further proof of the incident, according to the caption on a UPI telephoto, "L.A. police officer Christopher Comacho gets treated for leg wounds suffered while investigating a disturbance at Will Rogers Park in the Watts area of Los Angeles. A major disturbance broke out in the Watts area, and a few hours later police said there was one person dead, three police officers wounded, and more than 40 persons injured."

I am looking for any officers who were there during the incident who may recall the names of the pilots on duty that evening. My father tried a number of times in '68 to get the officers commendations for their heroics but was finally told by a deputy chief (whom I have been asked by my father not to name) that if he put in for the commendations one more time he would be reprimanded and demoted. Consequently, his attempts to have these officers recognized publicly was quashed, and Dad was transferred from 77th shortly thereafter.

Nearly 40 years later, while going through some boxes, he found the old reports and the UPI photo of Officer Comacho. Names, unfortunately, tend to fade with time, but actions are seldom forgotten. Again, he is trying to get these officers recognized, even if just a personal "at-a-boy," but no one seems to be able to find the names of these fine men. As a result, I am asking for the assistance of their fellow officers, the ones who recall the evening and are aware they are still with us and have had these past decades

with family and friends because of the strength of character and determination of these men; or possibly any family members who were made aware of the events of Aug. 11 and 12 so long ago.

Anyone with any information can feel free to contact me via my business phone at (213) 251-4574.

Thank you, in advance, for your assistance.

Cindy Scott

Subject: Retired Member Ted Whaley

Dear friends and comrades-in-arms:

Many of you remember retired LAPD Officer Ted Whaley. He came on the job in 1969 and during his career worked 77th, Southwest, Rampart and Metro Divisions. He retired as a Sergeant and has lived in Coeur d'Alene for a number of years. His good friend, Bill Dunn (also retired LAPD), sends word that Ted is terminally ill, suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease or ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, a progressive and ultimately fatal neuro-muscular disease). He is unable to speak and is confined to a wheelchair but can communicate via e-mail. He would love to hear from old pals and partners. Reach him at whaleysduo@adelphia.net. His wife, Cindy, is at his side and will appreciate words of encouragement for Ted.

Lenny Munoz (retired)

Marksmanship Matters
By Officer Lawrence Mudgett, #15467
(Retired)

It happened again! This time in a club in Gardena. A few days prior, it happened outside the Mexican Consulate in Los Angeles. Patrol officers armed with handguns confronted an armed "hostage taker." Fortunately, in both instances there was an officer present who possessed the skill to resolve the situation with a single, well placed shot to the "hostage taker's" central nervous system. In both cases, the suspect was neutralized and the hostage was rescued.

These two shootings should serve to put every officer on notice. **Marksmanship does matter.** During my 34 years and eight months as an LAPD officer, I studied thousands of shootings involving officers from many different agencies. I can assure you that these two officers who demonstrated excellent marksmanship in resolving these incidents are, unfortunately, not typical.

I am aware of several similar shootings occurring in different cities where the officer hit the hostage and missed the suspect entirely. At least one of these occurred in Los Angeles. In other cases, the officer managed to hit the victim with multiple shots. In some incidents, several officers fired and they all missed the suspect and they all hit the victim.

Most law enforcement agencies no longer stress marksmanship. Instead, they stress qualification. Recruits are not taught how to shoot well; they are taught to pass a simple qualification course. There is a trend in law enforcement training programs to move the recruit closer and closer to the targets. If the recruit can acquire enough points at the three-yard and seven-yard line, a passing score is assured despite the fact that the recruit has not and may never grasp the

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Letters
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Letters to the Editor

continued from page 24

fundamentals of marksmanship.

Marksmanship is determined by "group size," which is not even a consideration in determining if an officer meets the minimum standard on most qualification courses. On the "combat course," for example, an officer could shoot a perfect "300 combat score" and never hit a vital area of the target even once. Many officers will miss all four of the required head shots on the combat course. Others do not even attempt to make the head shots. Missed head shots, which impact the body score a full 10 points, despite the fact that the officer may have missed his intended target by more than a foot. The scoring system is so generous that an officer or recruit can miss all four head shots, with eight shots completely off the target, and two of their remaining shots in the arms and still "qualify."

Several years ago, the firearms training unit introduced an alternate qualification course comprised entirely of head shots. The time limits were generous and most of the rounds were fired from the seven and 10 yard line. Any officer with basic marksmanship skills could pass the course. A good shot could achieve a perfect score on the course and many did. Unfortunately, a number of poor shooters failed the course. They and their command staff made such a fuss that the course was dropped and officers were able to return to the familiar if unchallenging standard "combat course."

Government agencies rarely strive for excellence. Most police departments attempt to bring the majority of their personnel to the minimum standard deemed to be acceptable. The fact that most officer-involved shootings occur at relatively close range is often mentioned to justify low standards. Most officers who possess a high degree of marksmanship skill acquired their proficiency through participation in competitive shooting and/or civilian firearms classes attended off duty.

Officers who have a mistaken belief that being a good marksman is not important in a field shooting should ask Det. III John Helms of SIS, Officer Scott Reitz of Metro Division, Sgt. Ernie

Haleck of Metro Division, and Officer Ralph Morton of the Bomb Squad. All of these officers have gone outside the department to enhance their skills. Each of them have been successful in multiple officer involved shootings, demonstrating excellent marksmanship under the most difficult field conditions.

What kind of marksmanship skills do you maintain? If you cannot stand on the range at 10 yards and shoot center head shots on a stationary target on demand, what chance would you have of rescuing a hostage from a suspect who may be moving? Officers will generally not shoot as well under the stress of actual combat as they do on the range. Most officers don't shoot very well on the range. It is not surprising that they often shoot poorly in the field.

Police officers should be training for the worst case scenario. When a patrol unit says we're "clear," they are saying we can handle whatever you give us. A plane crash, a drowning child, a robbery in progress, or a "hostage taker" trying to leave the scene with his victim. In light of these two recent incidents, every officer should ask themselves, could I have rescued those victims if marksmanship was my only and last recourse? If the answer is *probably not*, do something about it! Enroll in a course that teaches marksmanship fundamentals. You already know how to speed reload, clear malfunctions, shoot from a barricade position, etc. You probably do not need a combat course. What most officers need is the ability to hit what they shoot at. The speed of your reload is not as important if you are hitting your opponent.

You should not wait for the department to improve your marksmanship. Government agencies typically provide training because they are required to. Efforts by dedicated people to provide a more effective marksmanship program for recruits and "in service officers" have been met with a great deal of resistance. If you doubt that, ask Sgt. Lou Salseda, who served for 13 years as the most effective Firearms Training Unit OIC in the history of LAPD.

A three-day school to transition in-service officers directly from the service revolver to a Glock semi-auto pistol is an example of failing to provide adequate

training. While it is true that the original nine-millimeter transition school was only three days long, this proved to be inadequate resulting in serious problems. Those problems included officers who completed the class and failed to qualify on the combat qualification course the following and subsequent months. Officers experiencing malfunctions and being unable to clear them. Officers holstering cocked pistols after an OIS. Officers firing all their rounds in field shootings without hitting the suspect. Recognizing these and other problems resulting from an inadequate training program, Sgt. Salseda changed the length of the transition school to 40 hours and raised the standards for completion. Transitioning officers from the revolver to the Glock in only 24 hours is a recipe for disaster. Any officer who is still carrying a revolver as his primary weapon in 2005, is probably not going to be easy to retrain.

Many police departments require their officers to qualify only four times per year. One large metropolitan agency requires only one eight-hour qualification per year. Some agencies are trying to increase these requirements. I have spoken with firearms instructors from other departments who are very envious of our qualification schedule. When I started with LAPD, we qualified 12 times per year. As you know, that number has been reduced to only seven. There are entities in the Department who want to further reduce the number of times per year that officers are required to qualify! If that should occur, accidents will increase in frequency, the "hit rate" will decrease, and community and officer safety will be eroded. Perhaps some

administrators are more concerned with saving a few dollars than they are with officer safety. I hope not.

Take it upon yourself to acquire a skill to get the job done. When a hostage taker is trying to leave with his hostage, or a suicide bomber is reaching for a pressure switch, or a suspect has taken your partner at gunpoint, it is much too late to correct deficiencies in your marksmanship skills. Train for the worst case scenario and perhaps you will not have to live with a tragedy that a better marksman could have prevented.

To All Involved in LAPD Service:

This letter serves to remind the reader at a time of investigations, that police work is a noble profession. In light of this month's media coverage over the shooting of an 8th grade boy, I thought you should receive a written reminder that the public appreciates what an officer faces daily. On Feb. 7, I saw two officers carry a gunshot victim out of a "combat zone" on the Channel 7 News at 11:11 p.m. They had no protection. It was too dangerous an area for the paramedics to enter. Did anyone from that community come forward acknowledging this brave act, or do they just show up when the response makes an officer look unfavorable?

I'm the mother of a 13-year-old 8th grade boy. I'm the sister of a law officer who spent his life doing what he loved, rising to the rank of chief. Lastly, I'm the daughter of a man who was dragged by a car, very aware of how you can't

continued on page 26

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Letters to the editor

continued from page 25

just jump out of the way sometimes. The story evoked much emotion and prompted me to write.

I'd like to convey that just like the wedding ring is an outward symbol of one's commitment to honor, protect, and yes, serve their beloved because of the common beliefs and resolution that their coming together as a unit would bring, the badge of police work is much the same. Serving is a humbling job, but you can do it in a prideful way. Take pride in what you do, you say and how you appear, it matters and is noticed and appreciated. I remember how my brother would say he'd cover the handcuffs of a prisoner with a windbreaker to create a bond with the prisoner. "How you act on this trip," he'd say, "will determine where you go in the jail we're going to. Do we have an understanding?" He was a big believer in warnings and follow-throughs and treating people with dignity. He communicated expectations well. It was then up to the individual to chart their course.

It is unfortunate that the actions of the officers involved are so much more being investigated in this instance than the reasons why they were put in the position of being at that place, at that moment, with that individuals and his 14-year-old companion.

Perhaps part of the resolution is to have young people attend ride-along programs so they can firsthand realize the intensity of the split second decision. We often think officers have the mere job of protecting people from others who mean harm, cheat, and steal. Sometimes it's simply protecting people from themselves and the obvious outcome of their actions.

In closing, I wish to repeat what I heard a man of the cloth say at a CHP officer's funeral last April. He said, "That's not a costume you're wearing, it's a belief!"

I believe in you!

With sincerity,
Mrs. Carolyn Rawski

Christian Bethart

Hi my name is Christian Bethart currently an explorer at our fire station. I am fifteen, the explorer program teaches you all about what to do as a fireman. I also wanted to do our police explorer program. You may be wondering why i'm asking you this, but i just got finished watching your officers movie 44 Minutes. I thought that it was a great movie it points me to a better way in life and also on whether or not i would like to become a cop and i think i would rather become a cop I have loved watching things about cops ever since I was little. Well thank you for your time i'll let you get back to work, if you know of any other people on the force that might want to talk to me tell them to write to me. Thanks once again and could you or someone PLEASE write back.

I am from Cincinnati, Ohio even though i'm not from around there tell all your officers thank you for what they did.

christian@bethart.com

Dear Governor,

I am a concerned native Californian, taxpayer, voter/Schwarzenegger supporter and wife of a tenured LAPD Police Officer. I am worried about your move to attempt to take away the pensions of the police officers of this great state.

Taking away the pensions of new public employees, including: law enforcement, fire personnel and all other public safety officers is like our state ripping a hole in the heart of our families' futures.

I read your February 10, 2005 press release published on your website and in it you promise that, "Pension promises made to all current public employees will be kept."

How is this a true statement when you also plan to do away with death and disability benefits for law enforcement families under your proposed reform

initiative? Your changes appear to leave a law enforcement family with nothing but a paid funeral in the event of a police officer's untimely death.

Juxtaposed against your reform cuts are the recent military death benefit increase initiative in the works by President George W. Bush, who is working to correct the many years of military families not receiving the needed death benefit for their loved ones (soldiers) killed in action. Police officers are the soldiers (paramilitary) of our homeland.

President Bush calls police officers our homeland's *first responders*. They sought out a career in law enforcement to serve and protect the citizens of our cities, state and country. **Remember 9-11!** Police Officers run into burning buildings to rescue civilians who have been terrorized by foreign terrorist groups. Our local law enforcement of California is currently being trained to deal with the potential of a foreign terrorist attack. These same police officers deal with our cities local terrorists in the form of gangs daily. California is continually a big target of terror whether by local terrorists or targeted from abroad.

If your reform plan goes into effect I am not confident that our public safety officers will be as willing to put their lives on the line for you or me no matter what the level of threat to our state's citizens. Additionally, I am almost 100% certain, that in the future, you will not recruit the required "high performance level" of police officer without offering them and their family the adequate benefits to justify this dangerous career of law enforcement.

For example, my husband has been a police officer of the Los Angeles Police Department for over nine years. He is a very proactive police officer. One of his captains has said to me personally, that he is a very hard working and exceptional police officer. My husband makes a lot of good arrests. He puts a lot of criminals in prison and off our streets on a daily basis. However, being a good cop usually means that the good cop makes a lot of bad criminal enemies. Being a good cop for my husband has lead to death threats against not only him but also against our family. Within recent years our family has been ordered by LAPD Homicide detectives and my husband's captain to leave our home. They were fearful for our lives, since they had received these death threats from reliable informants. Unbeknownst

to me, I was informed that these justifiable death threats occur to a large number of police officers and their families. Unfortunately, death threats do not stay at work, they follow the targeted officer to his/her home life.

In your February 10, 2005 press release you are quoted as saying, "I am proposing that we make pensions for new state workers just like the pensions for people who do not have government jobs." Governor Schwarzenegger, in all honesty, how can you say that the job of police officer is like any other job in California? The law enforcement career is not from nine to five, Monday through Friday. Being a police officer is more similar to being a soldier fighting a war. However, crime does not know any end. The police officer's war doesn't get to end when he goes home. He does not get to go on leave. He is always on guard of a potential threat against the citizens that live amongst him at home, in his neighborhood, in his community. He/She cannot help it. Like so many other public safety professions it is his/her calling to protect and serve.

I appreciate you taking the time to put yourself in the shoes of a police officer, fire person and all the other public safety officers before you make a hasty decision to cut their livelihood out from underneath them and their families. Please rethink your pension reform and justify the reason why I, and so many of my family, friends, and neighbors, voted for you as Governor of California.

Sincerely,

Nicole Mousseau
LAPD Police Officer's Wife / Concerned
California Citizen

Hello,

Just a note to advise you that retired LAPD Officer Richard Zelinski who is working as a International Police Liaison Officer for the State Department was seriously injured yesterday in a car bomb in Baghdad, Iraq. He was flown to Germany and after operation, listed in serious condition.

Thought the LAPD family would be interested in knowing.

Former LAPD Officer Russell Driver
#26452 (International Police Liaison
Officer-Mosul, Iraq)

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On Feb. 18, Motor Officer **Anthony Hotchkiss** #34282 was working 4TL6 (Code B), enroute to CTD from Hollenbeck. Officer Hotchkiss was traveling W/B on 4th St. from Boyle St. when he observed a black 1994 Ford Probe with possibly two occupants. The vehicle was traveling W/B 4th St. from Pecan St. without its headlights on during hours of darkness. Officer Hotchkiss continued to observe the vehicle, forming the opinion that the driver was possibly under the influence of an intoxicant.

As the vehicle continued W/B on 4th St., approaching the intersection of Gless St., it quickly braked to approximately 15 mph. The driver extended his left arm out the window and fired approximately four to five shots from a handgun in a southern direction. Officer Hotchkiss was approximately 75 feet from the vehicle when he heard and observed the muzzle flash from the driver's hand.

Following the shots, the vehicle accelerated W/B on 4th St. Due to the danger of a known-armed suspect, Officer Hotchkiss kept a safe distance behind the suspect's vehicle for officer safety, requesting a back-up and air unit.

As the vehicle approached Anderson St., Officer Hotchkiss observed a white cylindrical object (later identified as

a spray paint can) get thrown from the driver's side window. It was later determined that the suspect's handgun was also thrown out of the vehicle at the same time. Both the handgun and spray paint can were recovered.

Officer Hotchkiss believed that the suspect had spotted his police vehicle and was making an overt attempt to discard the evidence and evade arrest at which time Hotchkiss advised Communications that he was in pursuit.

The suspect vehicle continued W/B 4th St. then W/B on 3rd St. to Alameda St. where it negotiated a right turn to N/ B Alameda St. On Alameda St, north of 3rd St, the vehicle abruptly pulled over to the east curb and stopped. The driver and passenger immediately put their hands out their windows and Officer Hotchkiss waited for his back-up units to arrive prior to engaging the suspects. Once back-up units arrived, the suspects were ordered out of the vehicle and taken into custody without incident.

The driver was arrested for 12031(A) (2)(D) PC, possession of a gun in a vehicle, and 12021 PC, carrying a concealed weapon. Additional filing was requested for 23152(a) VC, Misd DUI, 2800.1(a) VC, Misd Evading, 22450 VC and 22350 VC. The driver was on active probation for carrying a concealed weapon and the Hollenbeck detectives

believe he is possibly involved in several other shootings in the Hollenbeck area. The passenger was arrested for 12031(A)(2)(D) PC, possession of a gun in a vehicle.

Officer Hotchkiss is commended for

his attention to duty, tactical excellence, communication skills and investigative skills. His overall actions reflect proudly on himself, CTD and the Department in general. Thank you for a job well done.

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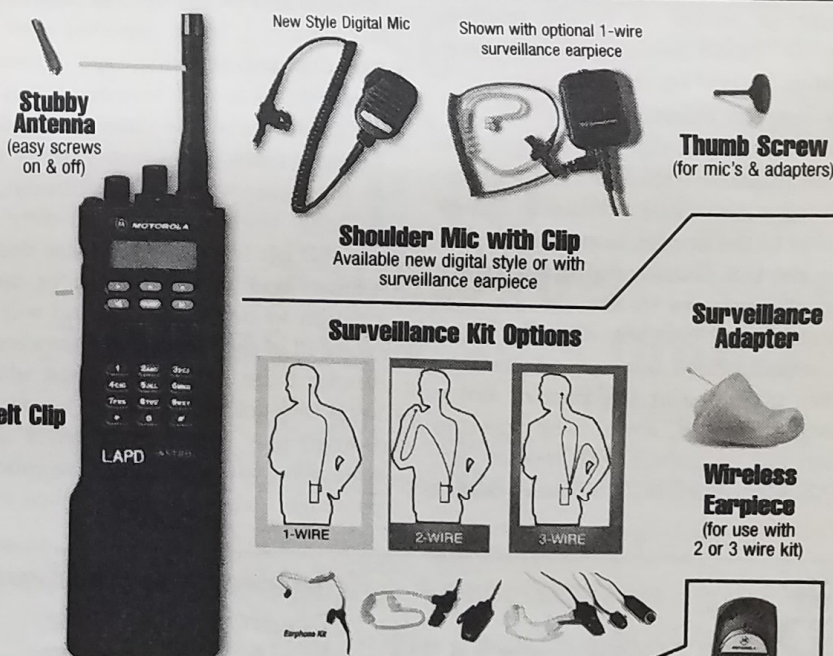
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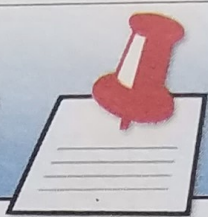


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Information

Off-Duty California Peace Officers at the U.S. Border: Don't Try To Outsmart Federal Officers at San Ysidro

by Michael P. Stone, Esq.

Over the years, we have handled some unfortunate cases where off-duty peace officers, while on vacation or a holiday, have been detained and arrested coming across the United States border from Mexico. Their crime? "Alien smuggling." The frequency of these arrests is certainly not great; fortunately, they are somewhat rare.

However, when off-duty cops are caught in this predicament, they uniformly express shock and disbelief: "Smuggling? They've got to be kidding!" No, they are not kidding. This is serious... the government has charged you with a felony....

Here, we are not concerned with off-duty officers who have become involved in calculated criminal enterprise and conspiracy, leading to attempts to smuggle contraband drugs or undocumented persons across the border for financial gain (see: Title 8 United States Code §1324 (a)(1)(B) which calls for 10 years' imprisonment). Any officer who gets caught up in such a criminal enterprise cannot complain when the government and U.S. Attorney prosecute him or her to the fullest extent of the law. In fact, you would probably say, "They deserve whatever they get." Certainly, they will not be peace officers any longer.

Rather, this article concerns less-spectacular, ill-conceived attempts to bring undocumented persons to the border because of friend or family relationships, or "Good Samaritan" intentions, or just to "party" on the U.S. side.

By way of example using a hypothetical case, an off-duty officer agrees to help an intimate friend or family member bring a non-citizen friend or family member to the border, hopefully to pass under the U.S. Immigration radar, since all of the persons in the car are U.S. citizens, except for one. Usually, there is a "story" agreed upon in advance, to answer questions at the Port of Entry if they are asked, about why the one person has no papers with him or her, or U.S. identification. They don't expect

to be stopped and questioned; but if they are, they hope a concocted explanation will carry it off. If that becomes a problem, "Hey, well they'll find out I'm a cop, and it'll be okay." Rarely do they calculate the possibility that they will be arrested for alien smuggling. They don't realize the crime is completed by bringing an alien to the Port of Entry. They assume that if they are challenged there, and the alien's status is discovered, the alien will be turned back, and the U.S. citizens will pass on through.

In another variant, an off-duty officer, accompanied by his friends, travels to Tijuana or Ensenada for a weekend or on a holiday. They check in to a motel on the U.S. side, and head across the Mexico border for some nightlife and fun. They meet young women in Mexico, and after hours of drinking and dancing, hatch a plan to bring the women back across the border "to have breakfast at Denny's" Hmmmm. Again, there might be an agreement that the women should not say anything - let the men (the U.S. citizens) do the talking if necessary. "It'll be okay because 'we're just taking them to breakfast, and we'll take them back afterward.'"

Typically, the men claim they believed the women are also U.S. citizens, or that they are students at some college in California. But once they are waved into secondary inspection, they are separated, and the story disintegrates. The U.S. citizens are arrested, booked and locked up. The non-citizens are detained, to be deported after they are deposited on videotape (examined under oath) so their statements can later be used against the citizen-defendants. In most cases, these non-citizens agree to cooperate with the government, and willingly testify that the off-duty officer and his friends were aware that the women had no permission or authorization to be in the U.S. and willingly relate all of the discussions that were had among them as they discussed what to say if they got stopped at the border. The women may portray themselves at the time as intoxicated and passive-innocent passengers who were being taken some-

where for breakfast; it was the men's idea to cross into the U.S. Under Title 8 United States Code §1324 (a)(1)(A)(iv) it is a felony to "encourage or induce an alien to come to" or enter the U.S., which may draw up to five years' prison.

By this time, the off-duty officer and his friends have already made various statements attempting to extricate themselves from criminal responsibility and "knowledge" of the women's true residency. But the explanations are not convincing or even persuasive, compared to the circumstances and the testimony of the women. There is the additional problem of false statements to a U.S. officer, a federal crime as well.

The detained off-duty officer of course, has an obligation under most agency rules to notify his employer. But, even if he doesn't, the federal officers will anyway. Usually, the agency will send its own investigator to the location to gather information for the administrative investigation. By now, the off-duty officer realizes he is in a desperate situation. He must locate and hire a criminal lawyer with expertise in immigration and smuggling laws. He has to arrange for bail. He is facing a felony charge. Nobody in the government seems to recognize that he is also a peace officer, or seems to care. He is treated like every other "criminal" caught at the border with drugs or non-citizens.

"Maybe there will be a plea-bargain; I can get a misdemeanor or even better, a deferral of judgment, and at least I won't lose my job!" The problem with this thinking is that his employer will look at the case in the following way: (1) Does the evidence suggest that the officer "knew or should have known" that the person(s) he brought to the border were non-citizens and not otherwise authorized? (2) Did the officer plan or conspire to attempt to fool U.S. officers into believing the person(s) were "legal" to cross? (3) Did the officer make any false representations or statements to U.S. officers? (4) Did the officer, when he was first asked questions by a U.S. officer, tell the truth? (5) Has the incident brought discredit to the officer and the agency? In the typical case, the officer is in trouble on each of the five issues. The result is usually removal from the job, regardless of the officer's "good package." Even "coming clean" with his agency's investigators and accepting responsibility won't help. The job is gone.

But, he's not done, yet. There is still the criminal indictment to deal with. The cases are usually not defensible, at least not enough to warrant going to trial on a felony. True, maybe the government will agree to a misdemeanor plea, and not insist on time in prison. But, keep in mind, there are Federal sentencing guidelines that have to be reckoned with.

A recent case disposition is indicative of the likely outcome in a "typical case." In return for the government's agreement to forego the felony charge in the

Indictment, and to file a Superseding Information, the defendant agrees to plead "guilty" to a violation of Title 8, United States Code, §1324 (a)(2)(A):

On or about (date), within the Southern District of California, (defendant), with the intent to violate the immigration laws of the United States, knowing and in reckless disregard of the fact that an alien, namely, (name), had not received prior official authorization to come to, enter, and reside in the United States, did bring to the United States said alien.

The government agrees to move to dismiss the indictment when the officer is sentenced. But there is a lot more. The officer must stipulate to the "factual basis" for the plea - usually a comprehensive statement of facts showing knowledge and intention combined with the act of bringing the "alien" to the Port of Entry, with the intent to violate immigration laws. He must agree not to attempt to withdraw the plea. He must acknowledge that sentencing is up to the judge, after a presentence report by the U.S. Probation Office. There are no guarantees. He must declare under penalty of perjury that the facts stated in the factual basis are true. Finally, he must AGREE TO RESIGN FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND PROVIDE THE GOVERNMENT WITH PROOF OF HIS TERMINATION BEFORE SENTENCING.

The "resignation" requirement is not always imposed by the government in every case; that is, plea agreements usually do not require the officer to resign. But our associate in San Diego, criminal law specialist Jeremy Warren, Esq., says that misdemeanor dispositions in these cases are increasingly difficult to obtain. So, the resignation agreement may be the only way to obtain a misdemeanor disposition. But with the factual stipulation, holding on to the peace officer's job would be highly doubtful anyway.

Under §1324 (b)(1), any vehicle or conveyance used to commit any of these offenses "shall be seized and subject to forfeiture."

The rules that emerge are these: (1) Make sure when you come back to the United States from Mexico, you strictly comply with all laws for persons coming to the Port of Entry; (2) If you are questioned by federal officers, do not try to mislead or deceive them in any way; (3) Don't think that your position as a peace officer will entitle you to any special consideration, sympathy or concessions - it will not; (4) If the violation is present, almost no explanation will avoid arrest and prosecution - almost always fatal to your career.

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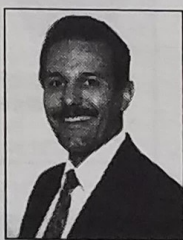
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Completion – When It's Time to Go

by James R. Peterson,
Attorney at Law

We all know that we are going to die. We occasionally think about it, decide there is nothing we can really do about it, and then we ignore it. Meanwhile, we are all eating well, exercising, working, taking care of our families, creating wealth and surrounding ourselves with "stuff." Now, if you're not exactly doing all these things every day, I suspect you're not the only one. But, what happens when, in spite of eating well, exercising, and taking care of ourselves and our loved ones, our body becomes ill and we can't take care of ourselves, our family and all of our accumulated "stuff"? What happens when we die to all that "stuff"?

We like to think we are open about dying but not many of us really deal with it by planning for it. We may spend hours planning for a vacation, retirement, even an evening out, but we put off planning for disability and death.

Well, what is proper planning? Doing a will? There is a lot more to planning than that. Just as our lives have become more complex, so has our disability and death.

If we become disabled, we need to have someone appointed to handle our medical decisions and financial affairs. We do this through legal documents that the doctors and financial institutions recognize and will honor. If we don't have the correct documents completed, our loved ones may not be allowed to step in and take care of us without going through a court-supervised Conservatorship. That's an expensive, time-consuming process and it's unnecessary with proper planning.

Here in California we have documents

to direct who will make decisions for us if we cannot do so. For financial decisions it's called a Durable Power of Attorney for Asset Management. For health decisions it's called an Advanced Health Care Directive. With these documents we decide who can make decisions for us and we direct what those decisions are for our health care for issues such as access to our medical records and life support.

Not if, but *when* we die, we need nothing physically. We'll be gone. However, if we do no planning, we leave a mess for those who must pick up the pieces left behind. If there's money involved, we would probably be happy to not be around to see the difficulty it often causes. The state (not the capital letter S) has a will for everyone. It's called Intestate Succession and rarely are the beneficiaries pleased with the cost, time and ultimate results. Even if you create your own will, as a loving act for your loved ones, it still means they must go through Probate if you own property or if your assets are over \$100,000. Probate usually costs up to 10% of the gross value of the estate and takes a year or two (or three) to complete. This is not a good plan for those of us who wish to have completion or are interested in leaving things simple and uncomplicated for our loved ones.

A properly prepared Living Trust allows an estate (large or small) to pass without Probate, quickly and at significantly less cost. What that means is that the people who pick up the pieces of your life will be able to complete it and get on with their own lives. Isn't that a nice final gift?

Gifting – now that's another thing that is more flexible with a Living Trust. Giving your money away can cause more problems than it solves if not done well. Minor

children who inherit money are entitled to it at age 18. What would you have done with a large sum of money at 18? Often it's spent on fast cars, loaning money to friends and poor investments. With a Living Trust, incentives can be included for education and the bulk of the money given later, perhaps in stages, so that the child can mature and learn how to handle it. If families are inclined to argue, provisions can be added that exclude anyone who protests your wishes. Each family is different and each plan can be crafted to fit the family.

Finally, what about taxes? The federal government charges a tax on all estates over \$1,500,000 and that includes life insurance, property, retirement plans, etc. It's an everything tax and the rates start at 40% and go up rapidly. For a married

couple, the amount that can be passed on without taxes can be doubled if they plan ahead before either one becomes disabled or dies. Even if your estate is just \$100,000 over the exemption amount, that's \$40,000 in taxes that can be avoided.

The words "completion" and "plan" appear a few times in this article. When we die we really do want our work to be complete. By putting a plan in place we can leave our physical concerns behind. Not only will we rest in peace, but the loved ones we leave behind can too.

(Editor's note: Mr. Peterson is a League Panel Attorney. The League will refer you to him upon request, by calling (213-251-4575))

More For Your Information on next page

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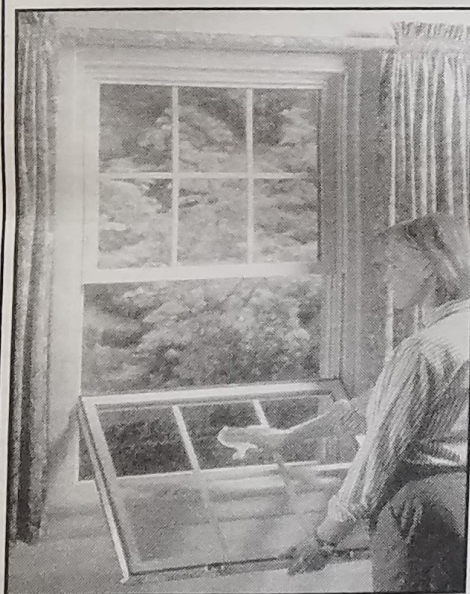
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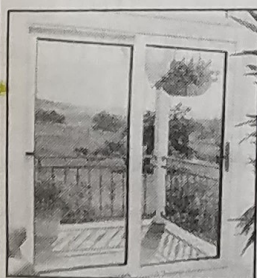
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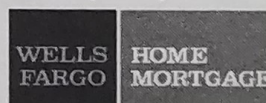
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"Fall In"

The Military Liaison Officer Program was created due to the record numbers of Department employees that have been called to active duty in the United States Armed Forces Guard and Reserve following the tragic events of Sep. 11, 2001. For the first 20 months or so, I was "An Army of One," with reinforcement from my co-workers in the Ombuds Office. Being a retired Marine, I was able to hold my own and provide direct support to our many employees serving in the Guard and Reserves and their families. However, the mission of the Military Liaison Officer and the calls for support have been steadily increasing. Therefore, a need for additional personnel became apparent. The new Assistant Ombuds Officer, Lieutenant Duane Hayakawa, took note of this situation

shortly after reporting onboard. He immediately rolled up his sleeves and pitched in to help, not only with his time and Department knowledge, but he started sending out requests for support throughout the Department. Within weeks, reinforcements started to report for duty at the Ombuds Office to work with the Military Liaison Officer (MLO) program. I want to publicly thank our newest members to the team. The first person to join the program was Sergeant Kellie Castillo who is on loan to the Ombuds Office from Harbor Division. Sergeant Castillo immediately saw the importance of this program and volunteered to help out. The next person to join the ranks was Recruit Officer Juana Ingle. Recruit Officer Ingle was temporarily loaned to the Ombuds Office from Training Division while recovering from a training injury. Recruit Officer Ingle did an outstanding job of administrative support and all our customers are greatly benefiting from her efforts. Additionally, the ranks of the MLO program received a great boost when two Los Angeles Police Department reserve officers answered our call for backup. Lieutenant Robert Edgar, the Officer in Charge of Volunteer Services Section, sent out a section-wide notice advertising the need for reserve officers to assist the MLO program. Within days, calls started to come into the office from potential volunteers. Soon thereafter, Reserve Officers Jerry Nezu, West Traffic Division, and Joseph Kushner, Wilshire Division, stepped into our formation. Both Nezu and Kushner will continue to report to their regular assignments, but have agreed to provide additional volunteer hours at the Ombuds Office to provide much needed support to the MLO program. Welcome aboard and congratulations to each of you. Your

dedication to our employees serving in the Armed Forces Guard and Reserves is honorable and your duties will be personally rewarding.

No "Leave and Earning Statement" - No Differential Pay!

The Department has an Armed Forces Guard and Reserve pay and benefits package second to none. However, because of these great benefits, you have an obligation to ensure you do your part to make sure you have full access to these advantages. I want to quickly cover what "Differential Pay" is and how it works. Differential Pay is only authorized for war efforts and homeland defense operations and is paid for the duration of such activations. Differential Pay is defined as the difference between your military and Department salaries. The benefit is based on "gross" pay for both military and Department salaries and was designed to ensure that no City employee suffers a loss of standard of living due to military service.

Differential Pay was first authorized by the City through Ordinance No. 174264. It was passed by the City Council and signed into law by the Mayor in 1991. For this benefit to work properly, military-activated employees, or their designee, MUST submit an initial military "Leave and Earning Statement" (LES) to the Department's Fiscal Operations Division (FOD) as soon as possible upon activation. The LES can be e-mailed to Dedra Sloan, at n2418@lapd.lacity.org, or faxed, to (213)485-7161. The LES is then compared to the employee's Department salary (which is the same amount the employee would have received if the employee were still working for the Department, not including any O/T). If FOD determines that the employee is being paid less by the military, the employee will be paid the amount necessary to compensate the difference. This process must be repeated each and every month. Therefore, the employee must submit every LES he or she receives while on active duty to FOD so they can compare the LES to their City salary. If FOD fails to receive any LESs from the employee for several months,

they will suspend future paychecks until they receive the missing LESs. I do not want this to sound negative, or like a big deal. Most employees are doing all of the above and are receiving their pay without delay or issue; however, some are not.

Spanning the Globe!

I am constantly impressed with the assignments of our employees called to active military duty. A point in case is Sergeant II Martin "Marty" Spann of Training Division. Lieutenant Colonel Spann, U.S. Army Reserve, is currently assigned as the Senior Military Advisor to the Iraqi Police Commandos. This police commando unit numbers about 7,200 strong and they function much like a military infantry unit. The unit has gained a lot of notoriety in past months for successful operations against insurgents throughout Iraq and earned the respect of United States Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. In a recent visit to Iraq, Secretary Rumsfeld made it a point to visit and inspect the unit.



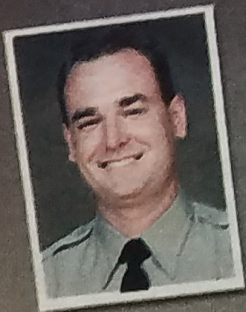
Sgt. II Martin "Marty" Spann, of Training Division, a Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Reserve currently assigned as the Senior Military Advisor to the Iraqi Police Commandos with Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

During the inspection visit, Colonel Spann had the opportunity to exchange ideas and comments with Rumsfeld. Spann stated that the Secretary was impressed with the fact that he was a

continued on page 31

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On April 29, 2002, Deputy David March was shot and killed during a routine traffic stop by Armando Garcia - a Mexican national residing illegally in California. A seven-year veteran with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Deputy March left behind a wife and 13-year-old stepdaughter. His killer fled to Mexico, where he remains protected by the Mexican government along with as many as 60 other accused murderers from Los Angeles alone. Join us in remembering our fallen brother and speaking out against this injustice.

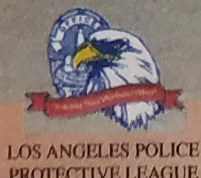
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continued from page 30

member of the LAPD and Rumsfeld stated that he hand nothing but respect for the Department. You may remember from past articles that Colonel Spann held an important assignment at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq and was injured during a rocket attack on the embassy. Marty, keep up the good work, you and all our other personnel serving on active duty are making the LAPD look good around the world.

Reintegration of Department Personnel Returning from Military Service - Updated!

On Feb. 10, Assistant Chief Sharon Papa, Director, Office of Support Services, signed Office of Support Services Notice 2.4, Reintegration of Department Personnel Returning from Military Service. This Notice addresses the enhanced care and treatment of all employees returning from extended military activation by providing the employees the services of the Department's Behavioral Science Services (BSS). This new benefit is intended to acquaint returning service members with the services available to the employees and their families by both the Department and the Department of Defense. Employees will be provided information on services available both within and outside of the Department. Some of the information and materials that will be provided cover such issues as "Stress as a Consequence of Military Service" and "Its Possible Impact on the Individual and His or Her Family." Notice 2.4 requires commanding officers to ensure that returning military employees make an appointment with

BSS for an informational meeting within the first 30 days of returning to duty. These meetings will normally last about 30 minutes to an hour and are not considered a "counseling" session nor are they intended to be a debriefing of the employee's military service or activities. This informational exchange meeting is for the benefit of the employee and not a tool for management. Similar programs exist in each branch of the Armed Forces and many law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. Employees can schedule a voluntary "confidential" follow-up meeting with BSS at anytime the employee so desires. Additionally, Notice 2.4 contains a sample 15.2 for commanding officers to provide employees that outlines this new program. If you have any questions or concerns about this new benefit, please contact BSS at (213) 485-2620. Also, if you, or anyone you know that has read or heard about this new BSS service provided for our returning military employees, and see it as anything other than a positive step, please give me a call at (213) 473-8871. I will gladly provide the background and history of this program to anyone that has concerns or questions about it.

Change is All Around Us!

I have learned so much in the past 20 plus months as the first ever Military Liaison Officer, but one thing in particular that I have come to understand is that change is constant. In the case of the ever-changing MLO program, most, if not all changes, have been for the better. I like to think of them not as changes, but improvements. If you have ever spoken to me, read my articles or heard me speak of the Military Liaison Officer Program, you have heard me say, I have the greatest job on the Department and I have the honor of working for the

greatest employees. When I was in the academy, one of the sergeants would always tell us, "Class, patrol officers are my heroes!" I learned what he meant after doing some time in the field and then taking a position inside. After taking on the awesome responsibilities of taking care of our employees serving in the Guard and Reserve and their families, I can now say that I have a new group of heroes and I can now say, "Class, members of the Guard and Reserves are my heroes!" Above, I spoke of what a great MLO program the Department has. What I mean by that is what a great employee/family support benefits and services program we have available to us. To illustrate this point, I want to publish the following e-mail I received from Police Officer Brian Churchill. He writes: "I would like to express my immense gratitude for the support you sought for my wife, and all of the families of deployed soldiers over the holidays. I can't describe how much that means to me and my family. I am here with police officers from all over the country, and no other Department gives as much as ours." I took a slight detour to get to the "change" I referenced above because I wanted to put it into perspective. The Commanding Officer of Personnel Division, Thom Brennan (a big supporter of the employees serving in the military) asked me to meet with him recently. He wanted to inform me of a change to the computer program system that will affect the employees serving in the Armed Forces. The Department is changing the software that tracks where all Department personnel are assigned and it will affect the way those serving on extended military leave are reported in Personnel Division's database. This

change is purely a reporting and tracking issue and does not have any effect on the actual division of assignment of the concerned employees. It is important for both the employee and the employee's command to understand that the employee still belongs to the division of assignment at the time of military activation. The division still has a Department and moral obligation to be concerned about the benefits, services, morale and well-being of the employee and his or her family for the duration of the military activation. Any questions or concerns on this change should be directed to Personnel Division at (213) 485-3243, or to me at (213) 473-8871.

There is a lot going on in the Department and the MLO program at this time, but I do not have the time or space to cover everything. Please remember to do your part to help ensure the system works and contact me anytime you have questions or concerns. Semper Fi, DJD

Attention to Orders: It is requested that each employee currently on active military duty or those anticipating activation, provide the Military Liaison Officer with your correct Home of Record address and current military (FPO) mailing address and military e-mail accounts. It is further requested that you keep these addresses updated as necessary. The Military Liaison Officer needs this information to better serve you, as the Department increasingly turns to the Military Liaison Program to communicate with our employees serving on active duty. You or your family member can provide this information to me via phone, fax, mail, or e-mail. ❖

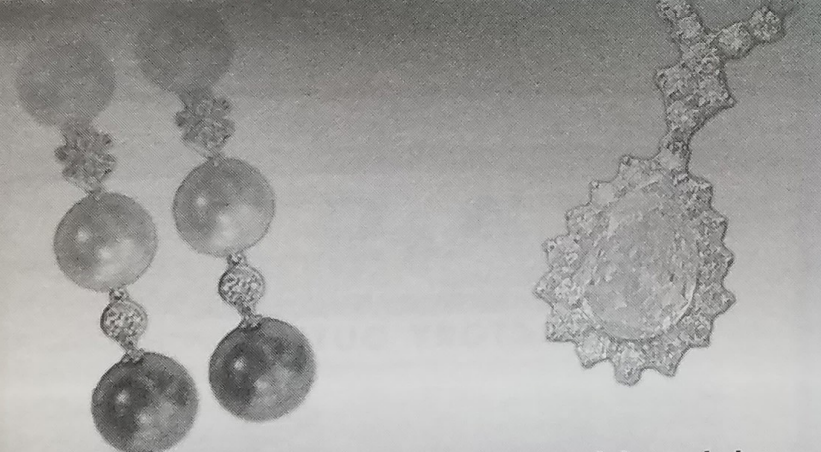
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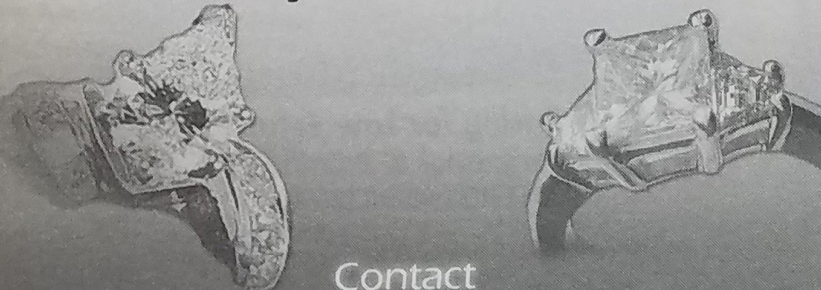
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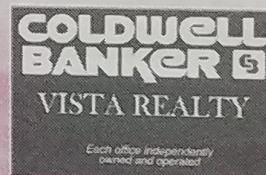
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for your **Information**

Help Wanted

When I retired in 1997, being a teacher wasn't on my list of retirement activities. But my wife is a retired teacher who dreamed of teaching abroad. Because I wanted to spend my retirement close by her side, I decided to give it a shot. I attended ESL classes, and in 2002 we spent six months teaching English at a private boarding school in China.

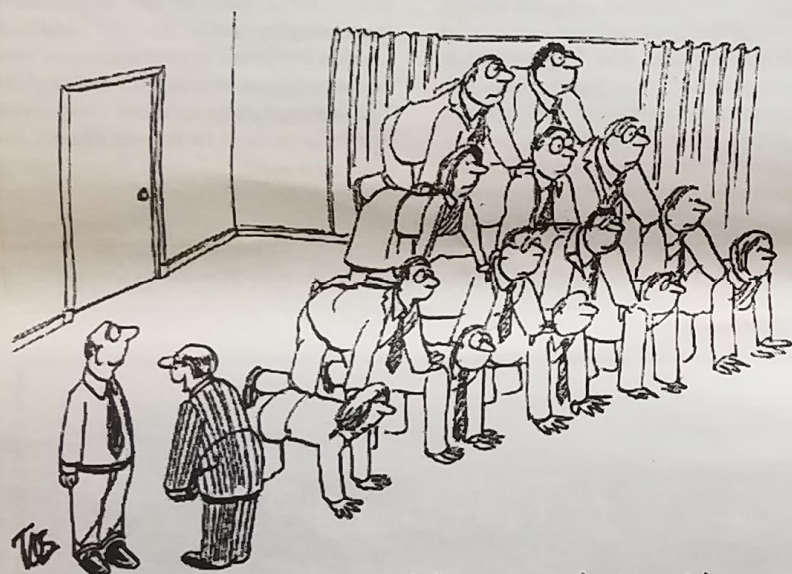
The rewards of teaching were many, and we spent a month last summer teaching in Lithuania, the homeland of my grandparents. Our bright, talented, articulate high school students worked their way into our hearts, and leaving them behind was very difficult.

Lithuania's wealth lies in her natural beauty, her spirit of optimism, and the kindness of her people. But it is a poor country and her people struggle. Education is of the utmost importance to parents and children alike. Upon our return to California, we began to formulate a plan to bring some of our students here for a visit this summer. In addition to daily lessons and excursions in Northern California where we

now live, we are planning a trip to L.A. and visits to all the major attractions, as well as the Police Academy and various LAPD stations. At the present time six of our 17-18 year old students are applying for visas in hopes of making the trip of their dreams.

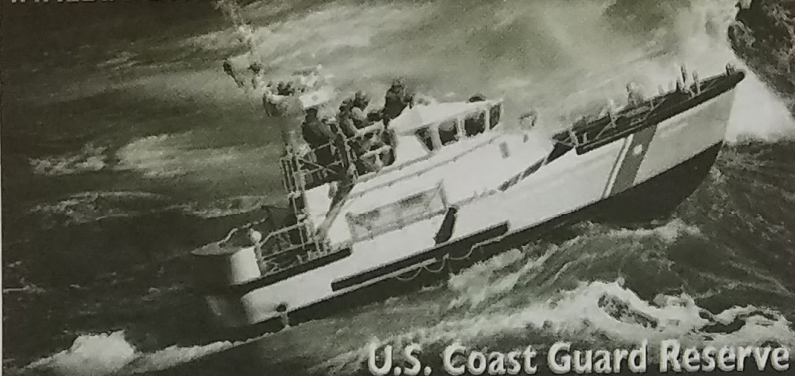
My wife and I are committed to "Project Lithuania" and have promised the students' parents that we will cover all expenses once they arrive in California. However airfare is cost prohibitive to these families, so we are seeking donations. If you are willing to assist these families or if you belong to any organizations that would like to give these students the opportunity of a lifetime, please consider a donation. If you have questions, we may be reached by phone: (530) 478-9426 or by e-mail, chinakids2@hotmail.com. If the project does not work out, all monies will be donated to the Police Memorial Fund.

Thank you for whatever you can do!
Joseph Brazas
LAPD Retired, Van Nuys



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Arroyo Grande - 1452 Grand Ave #B (Spencer's); Nipomo - 532 West Tefft; and San Luis Obispo - 1106 Walnut Street.

Cell Phones For Soldiers is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that

was started by two Massachusetts teenagers to help buy calling cards to send to our soldiers serving in the Middle East. Started in April of 2004, Cell Phones For Soldiers has raised more than \$250,000 and has sent more than 9,000 prepaid calling cards to our troops.

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(Seminars for May and June will be announced in March, 2005)

Sponsored by the Career Development Unit (CDU) in conjunction with the Employee Association Task Force. Please call CDU personnel at (213) 485-8777 (Civic Center) or (310) 342-3172 (ARTC) for additional information.

The Employee Association Task Force is comprised of the Career Development Unit and the following employee associations: Latin American Law Enforcement Association (LALAY), Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation (OJB), Law Enforcement Association of Asian Pacific Islanders (LEAAP), Los Angeles Women Police Officers' Association (LAWPOA), and Golden State Peace Officers' Association (GSPOA).

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National Police Week

May 15-21, 2005



WASHINGTON, D.C.

Police Week is always the week of May 15, Peace Officers Memorial Day. The National Candlelight Vigil is always May 13.

May 7, 2005 (Saturday)

Law Ride

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

May 13, 2005 (Friday)

16th Annual Candlelight Vigil

8:00 p.m.

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

May 14, 2005 (Saturday)

Third Annual Steve Young Honor Guard Competition

8:30 a.m.

National Concerns of Police Survivors' Seminars
Tenth Annual Emerald Society & Pipeband March and Service
4:30 p.m.

May 15, 2005 (Sunday)

24th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Services

12:00 p.m.

State Capitol

FOP/FOPA Wreathlaying Ceremony

National Law Enforcement

Officers Memorial

3:30 p.m.

CALIFORNIA

Candlelight Vigil

Thursday, May 5, 2005

8:30 – 9:30 p.m.

State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

Private Indoor Ceremony

Friday, May 6, 2005

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

State Capitol

CALIFORNIA (CONT'D)

Walk of Honor/Outdoor Ceremony

Friday, May 6, 2005

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

State Capitol, California Peace Officers' Memorial Monument

LOS ANGELES

LAPD Candlelight Vigil

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

1930 hours, Westchester Academy

LAPD Memorial Service

Thursday, May 19, 2005

1000 hours, Parker Center

L.A. County Peace Officer Memorial

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

1000 hours, Sheriffs Star Center, Whittier

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- Audiometry (Hearing test)
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- Complete written evaluation with MD recommendations

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for your **Information**

the Parker FOUNDATION

by Sgt. Steven H. Williams

Did you know that the William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation is one of the oldest and most historic LAPD support organizations and has been in existence since 1966? That's over 30 years ago that a group of concerned city leaders and LAPD supporters from the community formed a nonprofit 501 charity to help LAPD officers with equipment needs and specialized training.

Chief Parker was a widely popular police chief and was credited for establishing professional police model that LAPD enjoys today. Chief Parker was the longest reigning police chief in Los Angeles history and led the Department for over 16 years.

The foundation has funded many detectives and gang officers recently to specialized training they would have normally not been able to attend. The foundation is also in the midst of a large fundraising effort with its 1920s LAPD badge project along with the 80th anniversary of the Los Angeles Police Academy. LAPD officers wore this badge from 1913 through 1923 and the badges' original molds were donated by world-renown badge historian Keith Bushey. If you have not seen one of these badges, you are missing out on one of the true historic pieces of the Department.

They are without a doubt one of the



Sgt. Steve Williams greets "Adam 12" star Kent McCord, who stopped by the foundation office to say hello and look at the 1920s badges offered by the Parker Foundation.

most beautiful badges ever made and are available through www.SunBadgeCo.com. Thanks to the efforts of Deputy Chief Sharon Papa, they are now available in multiple sets and are offered for sale to our law enforcement and firefighter comrades. Deputy Chief Papa, for those of you who do not know, is a very positive and supportive police leader.

When you purchase one of these beautiful badge sets, a portion of the proceeds go to the Parker Foundation. We use this money to help fund training courses and much needed equipment. If you would like more information, please contact the Parker Foundation office at (213) 847-1226. For \$139 you get two badges and a beautiful presentation case along with a certificate of authenticity.

Los Angeles Police Protective League Pledges \$100,000 to National Law Enforcement Museum

Washington, D.C. — The Los Angeles Police Protective League pledged \$100,000 to the National Law Enforcement Museum. The pledge, officially made in December, 2004, gained entry for the Los Angeles Police Protective League into the elite group of law enforcement organizations that have set the standard for law enforcement support of the National Law Enforcement Museum.

"As the organization representing the nearly 9,100 dedicated and sworn members of the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles Police Protective League has been a proud partner of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund since the inception of the Memorial. We are honored to play a prominent role in helping to build this wonderful testament to respect, honor, and remember all our law enforcement brothers and sisters," said Bob Baker, president of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.

"Since its founding in 1973, the Los Angeles Police Protective League has represented the needs of L.A.'s police officers. In November, 2004, the LAPPL co-hosted a wonderful gala reception in support of the National Law Enforcement Museum. So it's a natural fit for the LAPPL to be among the premier group of law enforcement organizations that have assumed a leadership role in helping to build the Museum," said Craig W. Floyd, Chairman and Executive Director of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF).

In November, 2000, Congress passed a law, signed by then President Clinton,

authorizing a national law enforcement museum to be built on federal property across from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Judiciary Square.

Scheduled to open in 2009, the 90,000-square-foot National Law Enforcement Museum in the nation's capital will be the first national museum in the world dedicated to law enforcement. The museum will celebrate the vital contributions that America's law enforcement officers have made to our nation. It will be filled with hands-on activities, state-of-the-art interactive technology, and rotating educational exhibits that will explore the past, present, and future of law enforcement in America. More than 500,000 visitors from around the world are expected yearly.

In addition to the exhibits, the museum will offer a forum for important discussions on current and emerging trends in law enforcement and serve as a research repository for law enforcement safety.

"It has been said that the memorial we've built to honor our fallen officers tells the end of the story; now, we must build the National Law Enforcement Museum to tell the rest of the story — a story of incredible service and sacrifice throughout our nation's history," added Mr. Floyd.

(Editor's Note: For more information or to schedule an interview with NLEOMF Chairman Craig W. Floyd, contact Bruce Mendelsohn at (202) 737-3400 or bruce@nleomf.com.)

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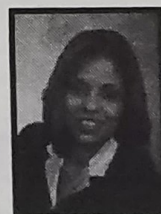


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YOUR POLICE PENSION COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES



(Note: The facts and opinions in the statements made by the candidates do not imply endorsement/agreement of the Protective League. Each reader is advised to do individual research to reach an independent conclusion about these candidates' statements. Please exercise your right to vote for the candidate of your choice.)

Sergeant Thomas A. Dawson Ph.D./Incumbent

THE DOCTOR IS IN!

The city of Los Angeles is not an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The city of Los Angeles wants to get you "on the cheap." The League cannot make the city give us anything. They must negotiate every penny.

That makes your vote for Pension Commissioner in April 2005 more important than ever before. Your pension is a contract with the city. The city cannot take anything back without you agreeing to it. However, it can make—as a condition of employment—new rules for new oncoming employees, as you remember it did on January 1, 2002, with TIER V. Every time the city has changed a Pension Plan, since December 1980 (TIER III), it has been a benefit for the city not to the officer. And the city is at it again with the potential of a "new" Pension Plan, called Defined Contribution. Arguably, unlike your cur-

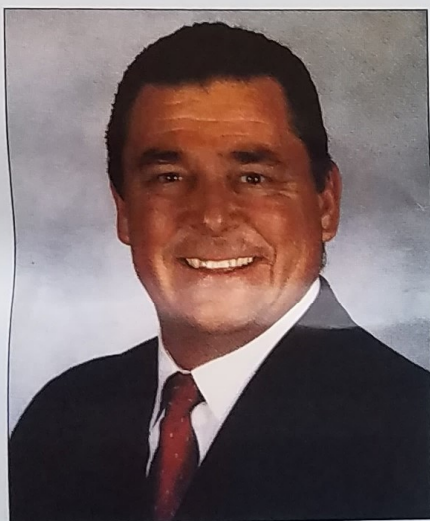
rent Defined Benefit Plan, it is in reality an "uncertain pension."

It could be suggested that the Pension Commissioner has the most important job on the Los Angeles Police Department. Why? Because every one of you will one day leave this job, and whether crime is up or down, whether inflation is up or down, whether your significant other loves you or not—and the like—you absolutely expect your "pot of gold" to be awaiting your exit.

I have been on the job over three decades, been a Defense Representative, a League Director, arbitrated grievances, been involved in negotiations and the like. None of that prepared me for the job I took on when I became your current Pension Commissioner. It is like those unique activities wherein you can only get expertise by doing the activity.

Whomever your choice, please vote for someone.

God bless you and your loved ones.



Don Keith

I've worked for our department for 31 years, 19 of which were field assignments. I've been your Retirement Counselor and pension expert for the past 12 years and have assisted thousands of officers in obtaining their benefits from our department and the Department of Pensions. I understand the trials, tribulations and the injury factors of field duties. I've helped implement the DROP program and have given sound retirement and financial advice to many officers.

During the past five years, I've seen a drastic change in the care and consideration of our disability pensioners. Numerous fine officers who have sustained IOD injuries are being needlessly harangued and humiliated at their pension hearings. A CHANGE is needed and that's why I'm running for Pension Commissioner.

Most of you know my motto: "If I can't help you, nobody can." You deserve the best, and I would like to transfer this helpful attitude to the Pension Department.

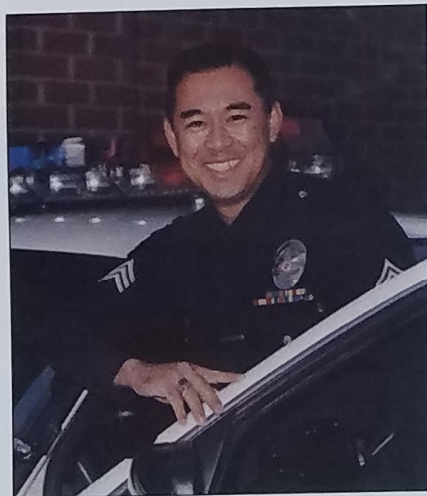
In the next year, we'll be in an excruciating fight with

Sacramento over the Governor's proposal to change law enforcement pensions. It's one of the most devastating piece of legislation to ever affect law enforcement and must be defeated. As your Pension Commissioner and League Delegate, I'll do everything I can to preserve our pension.

I would accomplish the following as your Pension Commissioner:

- Expedite the disability retirement process
- Ensure all pensioners and their families are treated with dignity and respect
- Keep our pension fully funded and away from special interests
- Extend the DROP program and make it a permanent benefit for all officers
- Maintain fiscal responsibility with maximum returns on investments
- Protect our pension from Sacramento politicians

I hope I can count on your support to make a difference that will last for our lifetime and many generations.



Michael Ventura

Michael Ventura has 12 years as a member of the police Department.

He presently has dual status as both a detective and a sergeant. He has been an active delegate with the Los Angeles Police Protective League and served on various committees including the Political Action Committee, the Legal Committee and Membership Committee.

He has been an employee representative and has assisted numerous officers with representation for 1.28 interviews, OIS shootings and Level I Use of Force incidents.

He has been recognized by the Protective League for his work and has received awards for Employee Representative of the Year and the League Delegate of the Year.

He seeks to continue this tradition of service as a

police and fire commissioner. In this capacity, he seeks to be an advocate for officers during the disability pension process.

He will balance fiscal responsibility with aggressive investment to ensure that the fund remains fully funded and protected from special interest groups.

He supports paid medical subsidy for retirees at age 50 rather than age 55. He supports a 90% pension after 30 years of service, rather than the current 33 years.

He supports government/military service "buy-back" of pension credits after full vesting. He supports the continuation of the DROP program as a financial benefit for all employees after full vesting.

Finally, his ultimate goal is the administration of a profitable pension fund that will remain viable, profitable and responsive to the needs of the membership. He will serve with integrity, dignity and respect. Vote for Michael Ventura.



(Note: The facts and opinions in the statements made by the candidates do not imply endorsement/agreement of the Protective League. Each reader is advised to do individual research to reach an independent conclusion about these candidates' statements. Please exercise your right to vote for the candidate of your choice.)



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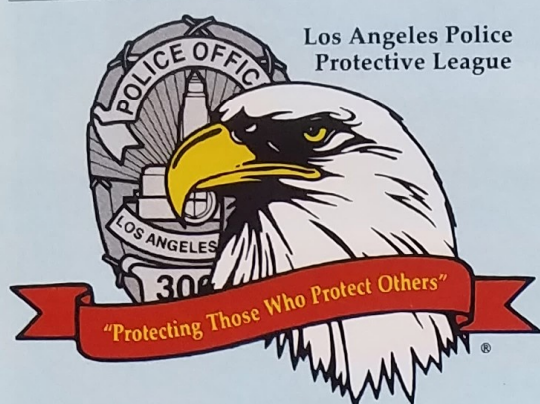
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The Thin Blue Line

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Police Union Challenges Governor on Pension Claim

LOS ANGELES, March 4, 2005 — *In response to the Governor's claim that death and disability benefits will not be taken away from public safety workers, Bob Baker, President of the Los Angeles Police Protective League, issued the following statement:*

Clearly Governor Schwarzenegger's handlers didn't give him the correct script. His attempt to squelch opposition to his pension initiative by proclaiming he won't take away death and disability benefits from cops and firefighters doesn't mesh with reality. If he had bothered to read the summary of the ballot initiative that he is racing

around the state championing, he would learn that it explicitly "eliminates death and disability benefits."

Further, a legal opinion released on March 2, 2005, by the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems clearly states death and disability benefits are not only eliminated, but prohibited by the initiative. However, even though his statement isn't true, it does at least reflect the governor's recognition that his plan to take death and disability benefits away from cops and firefighters is just wrong.

LAPD in the News

As during the last several years, this year the Los Angeles Police Protective League has been working to ensure that the media reports on our officers, the Department and the issues in a fair and impartial manner.

Since Jan. 1, the LAPPL has provided information to the media over 200 times in the last month and a half alone. While we do not relish the recent media attention, our goal is to make sure the League's views are represented.

Bob Baker and various League directors have met with local broadcast and print media to answer their questions and communicate important points regarding recent high profile cases.

As many of you have observed, after the District Attorney's decision in the case involving car theft suspect Stanley Miller and the Police Commission's new policy regarding shooting at or from a moving vehicle, the number of media inquiries jumped dramatically. In all

of our interviews, the League stressed that police officers need to be able to take action to protect themselves and the community from suspects intent on doing harm to police officers.

The League has been careful to ensure that its media function has been focused on supporting officers and providing useful background information. It is important for us to be heard in the media — with the 24-hour news cycle, the public gets news via the television, radio, newspaper and Internet, and not just at home, but also

via wireless devices and while on the road. Without our input, officers' views might go unheard or be misrepresented.

Often the direction and message of the Department might differ from that of its officers. By elevating our stature in the media and among the general public, it also enables us to achieve other goals, such as increased support and benefits for our officers. The public ultimately controls our funding and strength, and we need to communicate with them in as many ways as possible — most effectively, through the media.

	Media Inquiries Provided Information	Formal Interviews	Outlets Proactively Contacted with LAPPL Statement/Position	LAPPL Quoted Radio/TV/Print
January	41	14	90+	100+
February	191	44	90+	250+

LAPPL ACTION REPORT

Protecting Our Members

	February 2005	Year to Date
Roll Outs	10	19
Claims opened in League Legal Claims Unit	54	114
Boards of Rights assigned	2	4
Grievances opened	11	14
Grievances closed	3	5
Total grievances open	52	-
Open Meet and Confers	0	17
One hour legal referrals	44	96

THIN BLUE LINE 2005 DEADLINES

May 2005 Issue	Friday, April 1, 2005
June 2005 Issue	Monday, May 2, 2005
July 2005 Issue	Wednesday, June 1, 2005
August 2005 Issue	Friday, July 1, 2005
September 2005 Issue	Monday, August 1, 2005
October 2005 Issue	Thursday, September 1, 2005
November 2005 Issue	Monday, October 3, 2005
December 2005 Issue	Tuesday, November 1, 2005

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

IUPA International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.

NAPO National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.

CCLEA California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.

SCALE Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.

BIG 11 An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.

BIG 50 An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.

EDITORIAL POLICY

1. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
2. No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
3. Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
4. Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
5. The Board of Directors reserves the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
6. Deadline for submissions to the *Thin Blue Line* is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

LEAGUE EDITORIAL

Police Work is Not Always a Pretty Business Don't Take Away Police Officers' Ability to Defend

by Bob Baker

Police Chief Bratton once said, "policing isn't pretty, I'm sorry. If people would just give up, throw their hands up, it would be great. But they run, they shoot us, they fight us, bite us, and it's not pretty."

When police officers go out on patrol, they must have the means and the training to safely restrain violent and resisting suspects. That is the least that every LAPD officer expects and what every resident of Los Angeles deserves from its police officers.

While only a small proportion of arrests, situations in which force has to be used are the basis of the majority of controversies regarding police work. Split-second life or death decisions are dissected under a microscope as though those decisions took minutes.

Dozens of pieces of police equipment, and countless ways to physically restrain a suspect, have come and gone over the past few decades. Unfortunately, a trend has emerged: if a maneuver or piece of

equipment causes controversy, the Los Angeles Police Department gives in to outside pressures and stops using it, often without a backup plan in place.

Most recently, shooting at vehicles driven by suspects intent on causing harm to police officers in their get-away has led to a clamor to outlaw shooting at vehicles. We are gratified that the commission, at the urging of Commissioner Alan Skobin, acknowledged our concerns about their proposed blanket prohibition against shooting at moving vehicles, by amending their language to allow for factoring in situations in which "the officer's life or the lives of others were in immediate peril and there was no reasonable or apparent means of escape."

In the wake of this incident, I have heard from numerous officers, arguing that every year it becomes more difficult to perform their duties due to the "politically correct" changes that are made to LAPD policies. It's clear that this latest controversy has caused a great deal of concern amongst the rank and file.

At the same time, a disturbing criminal trend has increasingly become a threat to the LAPD over the past year: unprovoked attacks on police officers. With an occurrence unparalleled in LAPD history, officers have been repeatedly attacked while on routine patrol this year, although there has been little media attention or community activism on this issue. LAPD officers have been fired upon without warning in cold-blooded attempts to murder unsuspecting officers. Whatever the motivation for these attacks, their frequency and brazenness should be cause for major concern.

Despite the increasing danger to officers, the LAPD keeps trying to find a less than lethal weapon. Items such as tasers and beanbag guns have been rushed into service. Yet even those items have become a source of controversy. For example, news reports of deaths of people shot with tasers have led so-called "civil liberties" groups to call for their ban. Suspects have sued because while they were resisting, the bean bag

hit them in a place it wasn't supposed to and caused permanent injury.

The LAPD needs to take a comprehensive look at all the equipment and tactics available to subdue violent and resisting subjects. For example, other large metropolitan police departments such as the San Diego Police Department employ the martial arts "nunchaku," which was developed by a police officer, in addition to a baton. Many departments have increased their use of canines, allowing dogs instead of police officers to subdue suspects.

In addition, the LAPD needs to provide the training and support necessary to prepare officers for the dangerous situations they may face. Each station used to have a training officer on site, but no longer does. Officers also need to receive updated training in tactics and procedures — training that hasn't been offered in three years!

While it is important to examine uses of force and tactics to learn from each

continued on page 40

Shootout is a Grisly Reminder that Police Officers are Always at Risk

Los Angeles, March 10, 2005—Bob Baker, president of the LAPPL, offered the following statement about this morning's shootout between police and two suspects who had apparently gone out looking for police officers to shoot:

"First, it is a miracle that no one other than the suspect was killed. Given the firepower in the suspects' car, they had the potential to create a blood bath. There were dozens of officers, bystanders and media in the immediate vicinity, all of whom were placed in harm's way by the suspects.

Only two weeks ago, when politically-charged officials suggested that officers should never shoot at moving cars, we tried to make the point that vehicles and the suspects in them obey no such laws. This morning's events are yet another reminder that this is often the case.

Unfortunately, as frightening and dramatic as this morning's events were, they were also not unusual. Police officers in Los Angeles are frequently targets of would-be cop killers. Last year alone, at least 75 officers were the objects of unprovoked attacks. Sadly, in the upside-down world of the media, those incidents rarely make the news unless, as in this case, the news crew turns out to be under fire along with the officers. Our officers are heroes every day in Los Angeles, and they never know when the driver of a speeding car, the loitering pedestrian, or the domestic violence suspect will turn around and open fire. Today, our officers were lucky. Tomorrow the outcome might be different.

We hope that our city officials and community leaders will look to this event as a reminder that our officers face the threat of violence every day on the streets of Los Angeles."

Police Protective League Files Labor Charge Against City

Labor Group Suggests LAPD Wants to Take Both Sides Against the Middle in Fight Against Worker's Comp Fraud

LOS ANGELES, March 3, 2005 — The Los Angeles Police Protective League today filed an Unfair Employee Relations Practice Claim against the Los Angeles Police Department after the Department took unilateral steps to force injured workers to stay home despite being fit and available for light-duty assignments.

Although the Department and the union are involved in ongoing negotiations on this issue, the Department is nonetheless forcing injured workers to sign "Temporary Modified Duty Work Agreements" that force injured officers to return to sick leave after 90 days if they are not able to return to full duty. This has prompted the filing, which asserts that the "Department has engaged in a significant campaign to unilaterally implement the 90-day return to work program prior to exhausting the meet and confer process."

Says Hank Hernandez, general counsel of the Union: "We are with the Department in fighting worker's compensation fraud, which is why we feel that it is important to get officers who can work back to work. This policy of sending them home and forcing them to stay on sick leave is contrary to our mutual goals." Hernandez also declares in the filing that the department had agreed verbally to halt the practice of forcing injured officers to sign the work agreements, but then has continued to do so, despite the fact that doing so is a clear violation of Los Angeles' own ERO (Employee Relations Ordinance).

The union asks that the Department fulfill its obligation to finish the meet and confer process before making any changes in the rules.

LEAGUE EDITORIAL

Traffic Stops Represent a Significant Risk of Assault, Injury and Death to Law Enforcement Officers

On numerous occasions, this Police Commission has specifically recognized the significant risk confronting an officer as he/she approaches a person sitting in an automobile. Indeed, it appears that a significant percentage of police officer homicides occur when officers are making traffic stops. During the past four years alone, 46 officers nationwide were killed during pursuits or traffic stops. These deaths represent 20% of all officers killed in the last four years. Twenty-two officers were killed by motor vehicles used as weapons.

On average, one law enforcement officer is killed somewhere in America every 53 hours. The first known line-of-duty death occurred in 1792, when New York's Deputy Sheriff Issac Smith

was shot and killed. Since then, more than 16,500 officers have died while performing their duties. The state with the highest number of police deaths is California, with 1,360.

The recent example of a Savannah, Georgia, patrolman who was murdered with a vehicle is a sad instance of the dangers at issue here. The FBI reported that the officer "was seated inside his vehicle as the violator approached at a high rate of speed. Apparently, realizing that the man was not going to stop, the patrolman exited and ran to the yard of a nearby residence. The violator followed in the same direction, striking the patrolman. The officer who was wearing a protective vest was carried approximately 200 yards on the hood of the

violin's car before being thrown off." The patrolman died.

It is the League's view that the existing use of deadly force policy regarding firing at or from moving vehicles was totally adequate. This policy is found at section 1/556.40 of the Department's manual. It states in pertinent part, "Firing at or from moving vehicles is generally prohibited. Experience shows such action is rarely effective and is extremely hazardous to innocent persons."

Every day, LAPD officers face danger while carrying out their responsibilities. When dealing with the dangerous or unpredictable situation of attempting to deal with a person(s) in a motor vehicle, our officers have very little time to assess it and determine the proper response.

Here, what is really needed and demanded is continuing good on-the-job training that will enable our officers to react properly to the threat or possible threat and respond with the appropriate tactics to address the situation, possibly including use of deadly force, if necessary, given the circumstances.

Similarly, our officers must be allowed to use all of the resources available to them to ensure their own safety, as well as that of their partners, innocent bystanders, and the subjects they encounter. In order to serve and protect the community of the great City of Los Angeles, LAPD officers must first be allowed and prepared to protect themselves.

Law Enforcement Outraged Over Schwarzenegger's Pension Initiative

Labor Group Encourages Members Not to Sign Petition

LOS ANGELES, March 2, 2005 – Citing deep concerns over Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed pension reform initiative, the Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL) today said that defeating this selfish and dangerous proposal will help secure public safety for future generations.

In encouraging aggressive voter opposition to the upcoming ballot initiative, LAPPL President Bob Baker said, if passed, this proposal will only raise the morale of criminals. The governor's brazen attempts to circumvent California legislature and to implement this destructive plan will irrevocably harm the law enforcement community

in perpetuity. The governor is attempting to garner support for one of the most devastating pieces of legislation to ever affect law enforcement. This is a slap in the face to the integrity of our profession."

Schwarzenegger's plan eliminates death and disability benefits for all future officers. Under the proposed plan, new officers disabled in the line of duty receive no disability payment. If an officer is killed in the line of duty, his family receives nothing beyond what he has saved in his deferred compensation account. Schwarzenegger suggests officers purchase their own private insurance to compensate for his proposed

budget cuts.

"Officers are called on every day to make the ultimate sacrifice, and the governor is callously turning his back on the dedicated men and women who keep our streets safe. The governor is asking officers to give their lives for public safety and in return he offers nothing. If Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger gets his way on public pensions, he'd better bring some money the next time he attends a police funeral. That's because his "pension reforms" would leave the family of a slain officer nearly destitute," said Baker.

The official State of California summary of the initiative acknowledges

there will be "unknown net impacts" on public employer costs, Schwarzenegger and his administration have yet to present the facts accurately to the public. To date, every single government agency that has studied this undeveloped plan has concluded short term costs will rise dramatically. To that end, the City of Los Angeles will be paying more – much more – to fund the current pension system over the course of an officer's career.

By April 21, Schwarzenegger needs 600,000 signatures to place this plan on the ballot box; the LAPPL encourages voters to oppose this plan by refusing to sign the signature petition.

Police Work

continued from page 39

incident, it is also important to look at the big picture. Considering the number of incidents involving force, I think it is safe to say that in these times the majority of officers are extremely cautious,

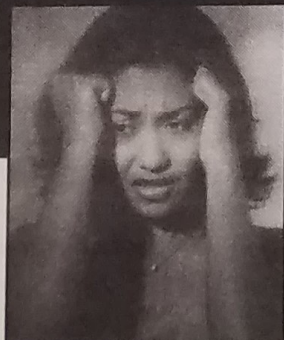
controlled and vigilant in their use of force.

Law-abiding residents want criminals taken into custody. The LAPD needs to educate the public that physical force is sometimes necessary to take suspects into custody. It also has to make the public understand that people who resist

the police will likely get injured due to their resistance. It should not be forgotten and must be repeatedly emphasized that it is the criminal who causes the reaction. If they do as they are told, and surrender peaceably, nothing will happen to them. Suspects who resist need to know that there will be consequences

to their resistance and officers need to be given as many options as possible to subdue criminals.

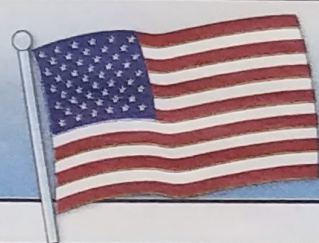
It is up to the LAPD to ensure all officers are properly equipped and trained so that "end of watch" means we are going home safe.



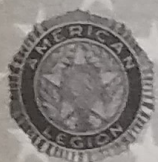
Having problems dealing with your teenager? Need some help?

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(877) MHN-LAPL

Veterans



corner



American Legion Police Post # 381

Post Commander Richard Kalk

POST MEETINGS THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

LOS ANGELES POLICE POST #381
13553 Reedley Avenue
Panorama City, Ca 91402
(818) 781-2261

ADJUTANT FRANK ORTIZ
160 N. Glendora Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
(626) 331-4271

EDITOR "JJ" LEONARD
(818) 992-1414

February 15, 2005 Meeting

The Board meeting began at 1630 hrs it consisted mainly of working on details for May 20, the 75th Anniversary of our Post is no small item. Lots of details. Printed invitations, letters, postage (over 2,000 members), historical displays, seating, centerpieces, menu, entertainment, MC, dress code for the Post Officers, Chief Bratton has promised to "stop by," etc.

The following were in attendance: Police Post 381 Commander **Richard Kalk**, Adjutant **Frank Ortiz** (limping but attending to duty), Treasurer **Harold E. Yarnell Jr.**, 1st Vice & Chaplain "**JJ**" **Leonard**, **Bob Reeves**, **Dean Warner** (A legionnaire for 53 years and this was his FIRST meeting. Please come back Dean.) **Frank Torres**, **William Zimmerman** (late - did not eat. Boy,

I bet that hurt), **Marshall L. Maydeck** was not in attendance-someone warned him that his Academy Classmate **Richard 'Dick' McCutchen** and his wife **Marilyn** had come all the way in from Henderson, Nevada to celebrate their 50th Anniversary upon entering the Police Academy Feb. 15, 1955 - there was a story about someone having a flatulence and Marshall making such a scene about it, that the Drill Instructors got all over Marshall, **Gail Tam**, **Steve Stremsterfer**, **Ernie Dicken**, **Samuel Mells**, Past Cmdr **Dennis DeNoi**, **MING**, **Stu Stremsterfer**, **Bob Kosier**, **Clinton Ericson**, **Woody Baca**, **Phil Anninos**, and **Nolayan Herdegen** the only LAPD recruit to attend meetings faithfully while attending the Academy - he graduates April 29 try & be there wearing your Legion cap. When dinner had finished and the clean-up had begun, in through the door enters Comrade/2nd Vice **Joe Mueller** (I think he was there long enough to say "Goodnight" Needless to say... no dinner!) Not to be "out done" our own **Rick Leiphardt** walked in as we were driving out of the parking lot. He was either extremely late or extremely early for the May meeting.

May 20, 2005 Friday is alive!... committees have been assigned, work is the name of the game! How can you help? Sell tickets to family, friends, old partners, old service buddies! Remember, birds of a feather flock together! So, if they're your buddy, then they're our buddy. Let's pack that party! The next Motor reunion isn't until 2007 so why not make this the mid-motor reunion? The last reunion was 2002 time enough for a lot of changes.

How about Band members? In the past they use to make quite a showing. Come on comrades... this is our Police Post-let's make it happen! The tickets are only \$35. We can reserve tables, if requested! **Louis Alvarez** (Retired Motor Cop & Retired CSM Command Sergeant Major U. S. Army) and his wife just ordered tickets. They are driving their motor home in from Arizona. I bet Louie that he couldn't fit in his Army Dress Blues! He said, "You'll see!" I'm waiting Louie, seeing is believing!

Special Days in April

April 2... At midnight turn your clocks ahead one hour.

April 5... Choir Boys Region V monthly meeting at El Presidente 1900 hrs.

April 6... National Tartan Day!

April 6... Los Angeles Police Emerald Society meeting at the Police Academy 1900 hrs.

April 8 & 9... Pacific Grove Annual Police Motorcycle Competition.

April 17... Choir Boys Region V "Day Ride" to Rock Inn & Big Oaks Lodge.

April 19... Police Post regular meeting 1800 at Panorama Post, Roscoe & Reedley Ave.

April 19... King of L.A. Motors, **Joe Albright's** Birthday.

April 22-24... Baker to Vegas also Blue Knights vs. Centurions football game in Vegas.

April 24 thru May 1... Passover.

April 29... Recruit/Comrade **Nolayan Herdegen** graduates from LAPD Academy!

If you have recently retired you might want to check and ensure your Legion dues are still being deducted! We do not want to lose you because of a clerical mistake. And do we have your current address? Just drop the Adjutant a line.

Our Brothers Still Missing

Many of our brothers who served in the Armed Forces of this great country are unable to enjoy the freedom and liberty that their sacrifices helped to secure. Pause for a few moments to remember those brave souls who have not returned home yet. Don't ever forget them! POW/MIA. Semper Fi! "JJ"

Commander's Corner

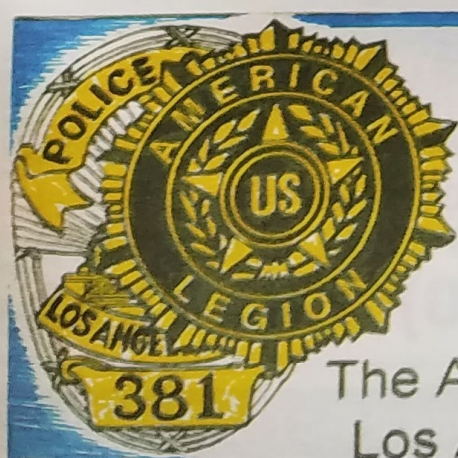
By Richard Kalk

The 75th anniversary of the post is quickly coming upon us. I hope all members of the post will become involved one way or the other. It will be a great chance for old friends to meet and reflect on the great fables of our LAPD careers.

This event is open to all who wish to attend. If you are not a member of the post and were in the military service, you could join that night. If you were not in the service, you are most welcome to come and visit with friends. Give me a call if you have not received an invitation, and I will get the information to you.

Speaking of the invitations, they will be in the mail by the middle of March. I respectfully request you get your ticket purchases back to us as soon as possible. We would like to have the number of people attending the event by the 14th of May.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (626) 287-1616 with any questions regarding the event.



May 20, 2005 Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of The American Legion Los Angeles Police Post 381

To be held at the police academy
social hour 6pm, no host bar
buffet dinner, dance and entertainment 8pm
All LAPD family and friends are cordially invited.
\$35.00 per person

For reservations or further information, write or
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160 N. Glendora Avenue Covina, CA 91724
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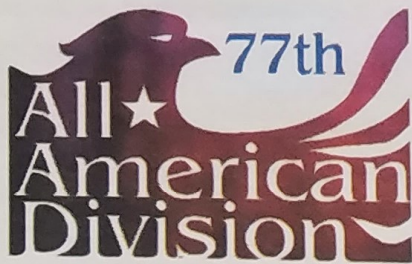
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Divisional reporter

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of The Thin Blue Line. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date. If you are submitting scanned or digital photos, please make sure the resolution is at least 300 dpi for best reproduction. Also make sure all photos have good contrast and are not too dark to ensure that they reproduce well.



by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

The 10851 Award

This award is presented to officers who have met the criteria for the Department of California Highway Patrol "10851 Award." It is achieved as a result of observation activities concerning the recovery of stolen vehicles and the arrests of suspects involved in these investigations during a 12-month period. These talented and dedicated officers pay special attention to those vehicles that are commonly taken in 77th Street Area and their success has been phenomenal.

The following officers were awarded their 10851 pins on March 3. Congratulations to PIII **Eric Hagerty**, #32369 (13); PIII **Steven Zaby**, #25530 (11); PIII **David Martinez**, #32878 (10); PIII **Andre Wright**, #27962 (8); PII **James Doull**, #35993 (8); PII **Michael Estrada**, #35355 (7); PIII **Steve Winter**, #32329 (7); PIII **Eric Crosson**, #32355 (7); PII **Eric Melendez**, #32233 (6); PIII **Ed Pigao**, #31247 (6); PI **Thomas Willers**, #37063 (6). Special thanks to Sgt. **Michelle Loomis**, #27794, that saw that these officers' efforts were commended.

The World of 77th Records Unit

Not a day goes by when an officer working 77th or a visiting officer does not have some business in our Records Unit. As a regional facility, with its own jail, this has to be one of the busiest units in the City of Los Angeles. These women process twice as many reports than any other division in the city and do so with the same amount of assigned personnel as any other division who has no jail. Way to go, ladies!

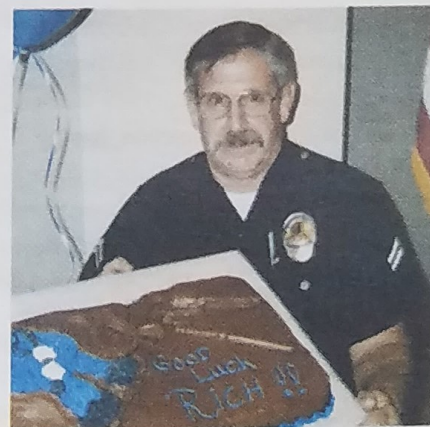
Special thanks to Principal Clerk **Sharon Green**, #E8514, who returned to her favorite home at 77th and has made sure that the officers at 77th Street have



Linda Williams, Deborah Stanfield, Sharon Green, Alicia Ceja, and Cheryl Morland.

everything they need to make their job easier.

While buying yet another D.R. #, I was able to catch some of our hard-working records people, and even though very reluctant to strike a pose, I managed to get this party of five to take a break for just a minute. Thanks, ladies!



Officer Rich Coates

Thirty-one Years Later

Officer **Rich Coates**, #20771, has been a 77th Street Patrol legend for many years. Primarily working morning watch, in this division he has seen his share of history. Rich's last day was supposed to be March 4, but you never know with these retirees. Some of us have time in what we call the "old bank" and not just the 96 hours they allow us to bank on now. When you are this O.G., you can leave at any time close to your retirement date.

So, in order to stay one step ahead of him, this wonderful barbecue was planned for him on Feb. 26. This event was no hamburger/hot dog caper. We have moved up in the world and served carne asada and chicken for our special friend. The entire event was a complete success. Not only were Rich's watch present, but many others whose life he has touched attended and paid tribute to this special O.G. Chief **Earl Paysinger** was quite entertaining with some "Rich" stories, and Sgt. **Pete Casey** presented him with a wonderful "one Adam 12"

framed picture.

On May 7, we will be hosting Rich's official retirement party at the Harbor Range. It should be a wonderful time, and we hope you will be able to attend. If you need more information on this event, please call the Senior Lead office at (213) 847-2817 or the 77th Watch Commander at (213) 485-4162. Hope to see you there.

Babies and Bonding

What a wonderful opportunity that

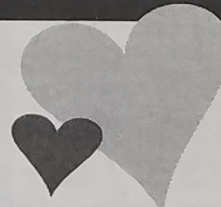


we are allowed the time off to bond with this special gift of life that we bring into this world. Since we are a departmental family that holds parents accountable for their children's actions, it makes sense for the department to allow us the time to be the mentor we need to be for our own.

Congratulations to Det. **Jorge Morales**, #32585, and his wife Leilani on the birth of their very cute daughter **Natalia Rebecca** on Nov. 18, 2004. She is a cutie, Jorge. Looks like your work will never be done!

Take care and be safe. ❖

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by Simon Says!
West Valley Division

Greetings and Salutations

I want to start by welcoming Lt. **Sambar**, who has pointed out more than once that I neglected to mention him when he got here. Also joining us recently are Sgt. **Foster** from Central, Officer **Guzman** from Devonshire, Officer **Fins** from Foothill, Officer **Majors** from Harbor, and Officers **Breyer** and **Chavez** from West L.A.

Several people left West Valley recently. Goodbye and good luck to Det. **Setzer**, who is now a sergeant at Van Nuys, Officer **Brandt**, who's off to Devonshire, Officer **Landeros** left us for Southwest, Officers **Amores** and **Garcia** are off to Van Nuys, Officers **Casey** and **Romero** went over the hill to West L.A., and Sr. PSR **McCarthy** went to Devonshire.

Belated Congratulations

Congratulations to Officer **Yep** and his bride, **Kristina Miller**, who are now approaching their six-month anniversary. Yep married Kristina in



Las Vegas on Oct. 2, 2004. He wanted to thank his buddies, Officers **Ambrosio**, **Booth**, and **Diaz**, who "made sure he went through with it."

Cool Caper

On Dec. 29, 2004, a residential burglary occurred at our own school car Officer **Lamar's** home. Handguns, jewelry, a laptop computer, and credit cards were taken.

West Valley Det. **Runnels**, Property Crime Detail Officers **Mayes**, **Briscoe** and **Guzman**, and patrol officers solved the crime.

First, Officer **Mayes** obtained Lamar's credit card history from American Express and Discover and saw that her credit cards had been used at a nearby Kragen auto parts store.

Mayes and **Briscoe** conducted a follow-up investigation and obtained videotape of the suspects as they made purchases using Officer **Lamar's** credit cards.

The investigation determined that the suspects purchased an alternator for a 1990 Toyota Corolla and obtained the auto part warranty in Lamar's name. Officers advised the auto parts store manager to contact detectives if the suspects returned to the location.

On Jan. 8, the suspects did, in fact, return to the Kragen and attempted to exchange the alternator for a cash refund. The manager recognized Lamar's name on the charge receipt and called 911. Officers **Sebring** and **Lange** arrived at scene and discovered that the suspects were involved in the Lamar burglary. Unfortunately, the suspects were GOA. Fortunately, the manager obtained their license plate number as they left.

Coincidentally, **Sebring** had written a citation to the suspect in that vehicle a few days prior and recognized the license number. **Sebring** also remembered the suspect's address (one of West Valley's "finer" motels). **Sebring** requested additional units and conducted a follow-up to the motel. Officers located the suspects and took them into custody without incident. A thorough investigation determined that the suspects in custody were RSP/forgery suspects and not the actual Lamar burglars.

After interviewing the suspects, Dets. **Galeria** and **Runnels** positively identified Officer **Lamar's** burglars and produced wanted fliers with the suspect's names and pictures, which they handed out during that evening's morning watch roll call.

A few hours later, Officers **Woods** and **Stevens** observed one of the identified suspects driving away from the Heritage Hotel. Officers requested assistance and followed the suspect to Hollywood Division, where he was arrested without incident. A search of the suspect's vehicle revealed Lamar's property, as well as property from other 459s. The vehicle was also a cold-plated stolen.

Days later, Officers **Brkic** and **McLaren**, on routine patrol, observed a pedestrian who resembled the second suspect. As officers approached, the pedestrian broke into a sprint away from the scene. Officers positively identified him as the second suspect from the wanted flier and gave chase. The suspect was quickly taken into custody.

Thanks to incredible teamwork between patrol, detectives, and the PCD team, Officer **Lamar** and several other citizens have recovered their property and **nine** DRs were cleared by the arrest of these "citizens." Good work, team!

New Station Opens



Officer Villanueva preparing for Cinco De Mayo

By the time this issue is hot off the presses, we should be moving into our brand-new, state-of-the-art station. The consensus is (or will be, I predict) that we are all settling in and enjoying all the space. ❖



by Sgt. Rudy Santos
Devonshire Division

Congratulations On a Job Well Done

The personnel that make up Devonshire Area's Criminal Investigation Unit have consistently proven their commitment to the Department and the citizens of Devonshire Area. They have put aside personal needs, even coming to work on Thanksgiving, to work on cases and apprehend suspects. CIU officers work closely with Devonshire Area Detectives. By carefully coordinating follow-up investigations and using superior tactics that focus on officer safety, as well as the safe apprehension of suspects, CIU officers have successfully arrested numerous career criminals and assisted Devonshire Detectives in solving complex cases.

The brave CIU officers are ready for action 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Since the last time they gave up their



CIU Crew

family holiday to come to work, they now live together in a rented house near the station. It is because of these qualities that they have been chosen as Officers of the Fourth Quarter for 2004. The above picture was taken right after the CIU crew had finished working a secret detail that required they dress up in "specific" clothing. They are shown after changing back into men's attire. From left to right are **David Swanson**, **Haissam Sabra**,

Bryan Dameworth, **Sergeant Bruce Vermaat**, **Marc Diamond**, **Eric Coffey**, and **Ignacio Murillo**.

Devonshire Vice

Nestled in a corner of the second floor at Devonshire Station is an office so secret, that very few people knew of its existence until the Freedom of Information Act was passed. The office houses Devonshire Vice, the station's secret weapon for combating lewd and lascivious conduct on the streets of Devonshire. Led by Sergeant **Dan Randolph** and Sergeant **Jim Antenucci**, Officers **Dan Garcia**, **Roger Johnson**, **Romik Keshishi**, **Eric Eppolito**, **Shawna Stevenson**, and **Michael Duarte**, ensure that people behave themselves and that all citizens in the area maintain the highest of moral standards. Though this may seem like an impossible task, this dedicated group of officers and supervisors have been known to put themselves in sin's way so that others may not. Such is their dedication to their job, that Sergeants **Randolph** and **Antenucci** regularly hold their unit's roll calls inside one of the various restroom stalls throughout the station. They do this to ensure unit camaraderie as well as to get the feel for their job.

A recent achievement of the Devonshire Vice unit is that they were commended on a recent City Council Resolution for having increased gambling arrests by 1400%, bookmaking arrests by 800%, and lewd conduct arrests by 145%.

On that same resolution, for work performed by Devonshire personnel throughout 2004, it was noted that Devonshire Area led the city in a 56% reduction of homicides, a 28% reduction of grand theft auto, and a 16% reduction of Part 1 crimes. There was an increase in Traffic Enforcement of 66% and our Narcotics

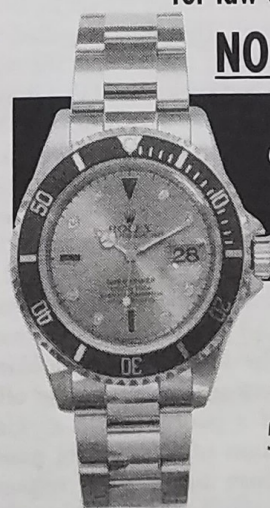
Enforcement Section

closed 474 narcotics investigations. Our Devonshire Detectives had an incredible 87% filing rate, reduced back logged cases by 77%, and increased crime clearance by 6%. The acknowledgement by the City Council of the men and women who work patrol, detectives, and specialized units at Devonshire Station is a true testament of the dedicated and proactive work of our personnel. ❖

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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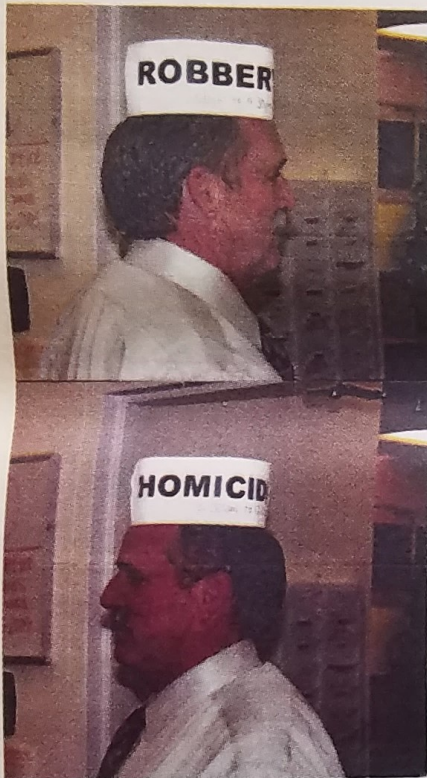
Divisional reporter



by Mary Dacey
West LA Division

Drip, drip, drop, little April showers. Actually, I think L.A. has had more than enough showers this year, so I'm actually hoping that April will be as dry as the desert wind. I wrote this in late February right after Southern California had been deluged by yet another in a seemingly endless series of storms. By the time you read this, we may have passed 1883 for the wettest year on record. Yikes. Okay, so now that we've talked about the weather, what else has been going on?

As you can see by the enclosed picture, Det. **Ron Phillips** has a new job



"Do you want fries with that?" Cheryl Jones took this picture of Det. Ron Phillips doing his thing, whatever that is...

as a short-order "cook" serving both Homicide and Robbery. What a guy.

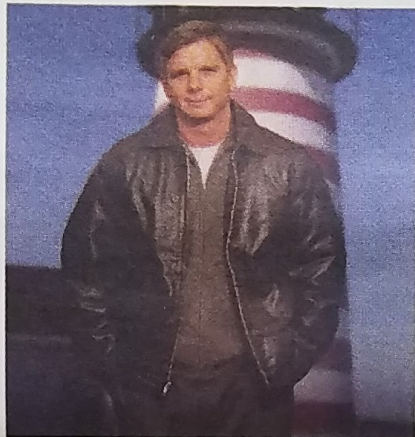
West L.A. has been under construction for a loooooonnnnnnggggg time, so by this month we are supposed to be back to "normal" but with a new and improved décor and phone systems. Are we there yet? Sgt. **Craig Lally** has done a great job organizing everything so next time you see him wandering the halls or traipsing up and down the stairs, give him a pat on the back for a job well done (either that or a bag of peanut M&Ms).

Clerk Typist **Cheryl Jones** has been the Detectives Woman of the Year as she has filled in as timekeeper, adjutant, cook, etc. It is, however, time for her to head back to the court where she is officially assigned, so I'm sure we will all be going through "withdrawal symptoms" for quite a while. Her chile relleno casserole is the best; that followed by a brownie and a cup of coffee or tea might make you think you were out for breakfast at Cheryl's place instead of at work. We miss you, Cheryl.

Back by popular demand, Det. **Lynet Popper** has arrived from the OWB Sex Crimes Unit. How long she will be with



Officer Sims and a toddler found wandering at the mall. This truly shows that "a picture is worth a thousand words."



West LA Mystery Cop Photo of the month.

us depends on the powers that be. We are happy to have her with us again. Also, there was some movement in the force recently. Det. **Valerie Heacock** has now officially been on the transfer as she came here a couple of months ago from Wilshire. Hooray! Also, SLO **Barb Scallon** was here one day and then an SLO at Wilshire the next. We definitely miss "Scrappy" and hope she visits us soon. Maybe she can tell the people at Wilshire a thing or two about mice!

P2 **Plata** left for 77th, P2s **T. Muhammad, J. Rusth, R. Velasco**, and **R. Weidlein** all left for SE, whereas **J. Breyer** and **J. Chavez** left for West Valley. P2 **F. Maravilla** arrived from North Hollywood whereas P2s **J. Breyer** and **J. Chavez** arrived from West Valley. RPO3 **B. Posner** arrived from CTD. We had a farewell luncheon in detectives for **Royal Barber** who was promoted to be a SLO officer at West Valley. A good time was had by all. Good luck to all of you.

Now it's time for a commendable cop caper. While driving around Brentwood shortly after midnight one evening in October, Officers **Lacunza** and **Damiano** observed a vehicle parked alongside another vehicle that was impeding traffic. The officers shined their spotlight on the vehicle, which caused the car to drive off up Tigertail. The officers pulled in behind the car and noticed that the registration tabs had expired and that it was registered in another part of town. The fact that the car was out of the area and that they were driving up a residential street with no outlet made the officers suspicious as to why the car was in the area. **Damiano** and **Lacunza** initiated a traffic stop and requested the license, registration and proof of insurance from the driver. The suspect started looking through papers at which time the officers observed a plastic baggie sticking out of a section of the control panel. The driver froze and did not respond when officers asked him what was inside

the baggie. The driver became nervous and was rapidly shuffling through his papers. The officers again asked about the baggie, at which time the defendant opened the cubbyhole. Inside, in plain view, the officers noticed that the baggie had a large wad of money inside. The suspect said he left his driver's license at home. Due to the midnight hour, the cluttered car, the nervous actions displayed by the defendant and his inability to provide any legitimate ID, the officers deduced that something peculiar was going on. The defendant and his friend were ordered out of the vehicle. The two men were checked for weapons and the driver was asked if he had any picture ID. The suspect said he had a credit card in the driver's door pocket in a box. After being asked if he minded if

his partner got the identification from the car, the driver said "No," so Officer **Damiano** went to retrieve it. **Damiano** smelled marijuana inside the vehicle and also observed the corner of a baggie sticking out from under the driver's side floor mat. The baggie was removed and found to contain marijuana. A second baggie of marijuana was also found. The driver was arrested for the use and sale of pot due to the quantity found inside the baggies and the large wad of money found inside the car. The suspect asked if the officer could just write him a ticket, but he was told that there was too much weed. Too much weed, indeed. So, instead of being on his way to a party, the driver found himself on his way to jail. Good observation skills were displayed on the part of the officers. ♦



by Ron Fisher
Central Traffic Division

On Jan. 14 CTD bid a fond farewell to two of its senior members. Officer **Carlos Sanchez**, #23241, retired on a medical pension with 22 years. This came as a result of one of the worst motorcycle accidents in the history of CTD and we are all very happy that he has made a full recovery with just a slight limp. Officer **Tom Fox**, #30763, retired with 22 years as a reserve officer and 10 years as a full time officer. You would think that after 32 years of service with the Department Tom would say, "I've had enough," but you would be wrong. Tom will continue helping CTD by serving as a reserve officer, again! After retiring, Tom decided to have his knee replaced and is recovering at home. CTD would like to thank Capt. **Meraz** for being the Master

down. The watch commander was present at the game, taking note that T/E Officer **A. Fougere**, #36265, was hitting three-point shots as well as "Sgt. Davis finding free food."

CTD would like to put a shout out to our folks who are pulling military duty and off IOD.

Military

Sean Laule - Navy and **Angelo Maldonado** - National Guard.

IOD

Tony Sciarrino, Raul Rodriguez, Cesar Guitron, Michael Almas, Peter Hopkins and Teresa Gallardo.

Welcome back from IOD **Hector ("Steve") Carbahal.**

At the time of this issue CIFU Det. **Rachel Angew** should have had her new baby which she was told would be delivered on March 3 at noon. FYI... If the city wanted you to have children they would have issued them to you!

A review of the tentative list for police sergeant revealed a little surprise for CTD with Ofcr. **Sandor** being in rank 7 and Ofcr. **Richard Joaquin** in rank 8.

The following CTD personnel are celebrating their service anniversaries with the department, congratulations!!!

Ofcr R Gurrola	31 years	Ofcr G Miller	31 years
Sgt-II G Nichols	26 years	Sgt M Marcey	23 years
Sgt T Tavares	23 years	Sgt G Urrutia	20 years
Ofcr R Cortez	20 years	Ofcr N Peterson	18 years
Ofcr D Castro	17 years	Sgt J Sands	16 years
Ofcr R Palma	16 years	Sgt DA McCallum	15 years
Ofcr P Cordero	15 years	Ofcr G Sales	15 years
Ofcr M Belmonte	12 years	Ofcr H Colebrooke	12 years
Ofcr J Vasquez	12 years	Ofcr F Alvarez	11 years
Ofcr H Guardo	11 years	Ofcr R Golden	10 years
Ofcr G Ortiz	10 years	Ofcr A Stewart	10 years
Ofcr R Takanashi	10 years	Ofcr N Vargas	10 years
Ofcr D Andersen	9 years	Ofcr P Floge	9 years
Ofcr R Bonilla	8 years	Ofcr E Fuller	8 years
Ofcr U Ree	6 years	Ofcr R Klepper	5 years
Ofcr L Mariscal	5 years	Ofcr L Hudnell	3 years
Ofcr P Palma	3 years	Ofcr E Poss	3 years

Happy Birthday to the following:

Sgt-II G Nichols	4/3	Ofcr H Servin	4/4
Civ B Telles	4/4	Ofcr R Takanashi	4/5
Ofcr K Vanhooser	4/18	Civ C Hardy-Taylor	4/18
Ofcr A Villegas	4/25	Civ M Gay	4/25
Sgt G Urrutia	4/30	Ofcr S Carlisle	4/30

of Ceremony at the retirement, keeping those present in tears with laughter.

CTD's basketball team is doing very well at 7 and 3. This is being achieved despite the game played against STD in which motor officer **Bill McDonald** was confused (requirement to be a motor) thinking he was playing football. Bill fouled-out of the game but could not understand why he didn't get a first

Traffic Tip

Remember that the short form traffic report (check box) can be used on all T/C's except A & K's, felony DUI arrests and major CPI (with city vehicles). CIFU detectives would like to remind everyone to not advise parties to contact them for DR info or copies of the T/C face sheet, the parties should be directed to contact R & I for the info. ♦

Change Orders

by Police Officer III Chris Carson
Facilities Management Division

Hello from FMD! We've been busy working on projects for the Police Department. Our projects include four replacement area police stations, three new area police stations, a traffic division/bureau headquarters, two jails, two Bomb Squad facilities, an emergency operations center, a crime lab and an air support hangar. All are either in construction, or will be by the end of this year. We are also designing the Parker Center replacement and have numerous smaller renovation and repair projects going on throughout the city.

As of this writing (Mar. 1 - *Blue Line* columns are written a month in advance) we have four projects that have been advertised: Mid-City Police Station, both Bomb Squad projects and the Harbor Replacement Police Station. From bid advertisement to beginning of construction is generally about six months. Valley Traffic Division/Bureau Headquarters goes out next week.

FMD Construction Project - Valley Traffic Division/Bureau Headquarters

This month's column spotlights Valley Traffic Division and Bureau Headquarters, which is the most recent to go out for advertising. The 30,000 square foot facility will house Operations Valley Bureau Headquarters and Valley



Valley Traffic Division/Bureau Headquarters Artist's Rendering, circa 2008.

Traffic Division and give relief to the overcrowded Van Nuys Station. It will have state of the art security access systems and will include a parking structure with secured parking.

The facility will be located at 7870 Nollan Place on the site of the old General Motors plant in Van Nuys. The project is scheduled to go out to bid in April 2005 (probably by the time you are reading this article). The bid and award process should be completed by June of this year, and demolition to clear the site for construction should begin by August of this year.

The Project Manager for the Valley Traffic Division/Bureau Headquarters is **Ron Code**. Ron started as a police officer for the Department in 1964. Ron's service included working at Highland Park Division (when it was still "Highland Park" at the original station), Central, Metropolitan, 77th, Hollenbeck, Narcotics and Hollywood Divisions. Ron promoted to the rank of Lieutenant II and retired in 1996 from Hollywood Division as the Detective Commanding Officer. Ron returned to the city and is now working as a Management Analyst II here in at FMD. Ron brings with him

many years of service and experience.

I've often asked Ron what it was like, when patrol cars were first introduced to police work and if he was sad having to give up his horse when this occurred. In turn, Ron has sometimes asked me what these new-fangled typewriter looking things are that we have in the patrol cars today and why police officers need a television screen to go with them. I'm still trying to explain bean-bag shotguns to him, and I don't want to confuse him with MDT's yet. Some days we drive around in circles, still looking for call boxes so Ron can ring in.

Seriously though, Ron brings a lot of experience to our unit. Ron is the Project Manager for the Temporary Hollenbeck Station, 21st Area Police Station (Valley) and Valley Traffic Division/Bureau Headquarters. While working on these projects, Ron tends to look at the designs with a critical eye as a project manager, trying to cover both operational needs as well as meeting the project budgets and schedules.

Forgotten Divisions of the LAPD

Last month's Forgotten Division of the LAPD was Lincoln Heights Division. Lincoln Heights Division was located next to the Main Jail (a.k.a. Lincoln Heights Jail or the City Jail) at 419 North Avenue 19. This was the original Police Division No. 2, the predecessor to today's No. 2, Rampart Division. Lincoln



Forgotten Division April

Heights Division history dates back to approximately 1889. The area it served, Lincoln Heights, is one of the oldest portions of the city. Lincoln Heights Division was demolished to make way for expansion of the Jail. The Main Jail is still there, though closed since the late 1960s. Lincoln Heights Division's actual area was reapportioned to other police divisions.

For this month's forgotten Division of the LAPD, whoever is the first to guess the correct answer will receive a prize set of two movie tickets. Please e-mail your answer to me at 34052@lapd.lacity.org.

THE MAGNIFICENT

7

by "Helper"
Wilshire Division

Baker to Vegas is finally here. Well at least it will be in a few weeks. Final preparations are being made by SLO **Miguel Lopez** and once again he is doing an outstanding job. If I do not make the team then I take back all the nice things I said about you. Seriously though, we are really trying to bring home a mug, and I really believe that with this year's team we will be able to do more than that. I want to remind everyone to have a good time but also be safe. Remember that it's a long weekend and what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. Just as long as it does not come out at Sgt. **Il Blum**'s picnic on Sunday because it will be talked about for weeks and weeks.

Departures

Sgt. **Jay Mastick**, #32471, who has been a fixture here for some time is now moving on. We wish you good luck over at JD-MET. Det. **V. Heacock**, #30471, is moving over to WLA. Officer **D. Dilworth**, #37076, is moving on down to 77th. Officer **R. Ramirez**, #37091, is moving over to NHWD. Officer **K. Busiere**, #36577, is moving way down south to SE along with Officer **J. Chi**, #37073.

Last but not least, Officer **T. Hope**, #37083, is moving up to VNY. Good luck to all of you and I'm sure you will be back someday. Everyone comes back to Wilshire.

Arrivals

Welcome to following people to one of the busiest Divisions in the City. Sgt. **C. Allen**, #24030, up from SW. Sgt. **D. Wells**, #32042, up from 77th. SLO **B. Scallon**, #26823, is in from WLA.

Helper's Commendable Capers

On Monday, Nov. 29, 2004, a concerned citizen who had seen a group of males spray painting graffiti along

Vermont in Rampart Division stopped Wilshire Gang Officers **Marquez** and **Lamas**. After receiving a suspect description they began to search the area. They came across a group of males who appeared to be huddled together. The males appeared to be hiding something so the officers decided to investigate. As they tactically approached the males and cut off their escape route, they could hear the sounds of can dropping to the ground. They later found that the cans were spray paint cans. As they approached the males they were surprised by the officers and they were immediately turned around a placed in the search position. As the males turned around Officers **Lamas** and **Marquez** could hear the sound of another spray can fall to the ground, however, they also heard a sound that they were familiar with that was different than a spray can. That sound was the sound of a loaded .357 revolver. They immediately notified other gang officers that were in the area and when those officers arrived all suspects were taken into custody.

Now I bet you thought the story was over, but wait there's more, apparently one of the males that were detained was a victim. A victim you ask, yes it's true. Gang officers interrupted a hit on a rival tagging crew member. After further investigation they found that the four suspects had just approached the victim and they were just about to shoot him when Officers **Lamas** and **Marquez** walked up. All I can say is wow, talk about being at the right place at the right time. Well maybe not so much for the victim. These officers are to be commended for their keen observation skills and their relentless investigation abilities. These officers were commended by Gang Supervisor, Sgt. **Chuck Knolls**. Great job!

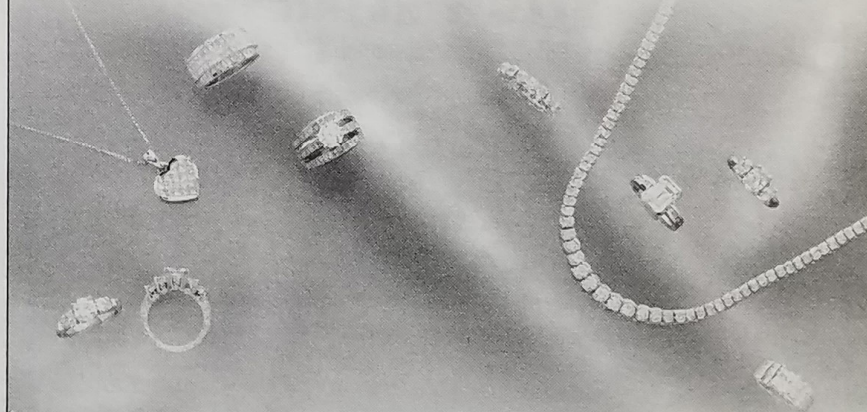
This is just another example of what our gang officers do on a daily basis. Since this incident they have made more arrests of gang members with guns, parole violators, been involved in foot pursuits with dangerous gang members resulting in arrests, then I can remember since being here at Wilshire. I have to say the Gang Unit right now is the most proactive Gang Unit that I have seen in years. Great job people.

Keep up the good work.

I want everyone to have a wonderful spring break and a happy Easter and remember to support the running team for Baker to Vegas, 2005!!!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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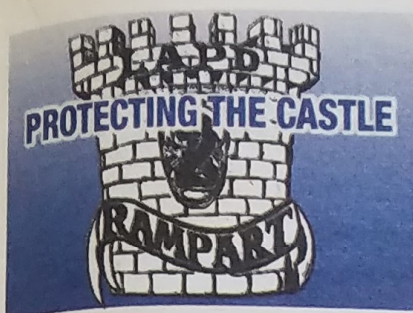
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by Fitz
Rampart Division

Thoughts and Prayers

Our deepest sympathy to P3 Chris Razo and his family as his grandfather passed away just last month; he's a man held in high regard by friends and family and wouldn't hesitate to give you the shirt off his own back. P2 Edgar Hernandez suffered a tremendous loss recently when his father passed away. Abelardo Hernandez was honored during his services and remembered as a man of strong commitment, faith and family ties. Sgt. Hector Feliciano lost his father last month as well, and our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family.

Congrats to P3 Andrew Taylor and his wife on the birth of their very first baby. Word is both Mom and baby are doing fine, yet Woog is a wreck!

Top Cops

Capt. Charlie Beck recently announced the Officer of the Year awards; bet a lot of tough decisions had to be made to narrow it down to the final winners. Sgt. Hector Feliciano grabbed the honor of top supervisor. Papi was definitely an asset to the Division and can always be counted on to hand out solid advice while taking care of his troops through thick and thin. Detective Sofie Toledo was named as the top crime-solving sleuth. She has a reputation of being good people and her latest claim to fame was putting together a lengthy multi-count case against an 18th Street rapist. P3 Marcus Gibbens nabbed the top cop award. Gibby is a hard-working training officer that strives to improve the quality of life for Rampart citizens in any way possible. Congrats to all!

Outs

Congrats to LT Justin Eisenberg who has left the Gang Impact Team to take over the highly coveted OIC position over at the Bomb Squad. LT proved to be an innovative supervisor who strived to utilized every resource available to combat crime and put bad guys in jail.

Congrats LT, we'll see you on the next suspicious package roll out!

Big congrats to the newest Sergeant outta Rampart... Chris Ramirez was promoted from his SLO spot, turned in his star and added a stripe to his sleeve. Chris is a hard-working copper and an all around fun-loving guy. He'll be missed as he heads down to Southwest, yet he'll always be welcome to return to The Castle! Good luck bro!

Lots of movement outta Rampart for a bunch of Sgts who spun off the wheel and have left The Castle. Sgt. Irma Krish goes west to Wilshire while Sgt. Maria Lee heads east to Central. Sgt. Greg Gonzales leaves to Hollenbeck and Sgt. Hector Feliciano heads down to shootin' Newton! Don't forget to take care of the troops!

Det. Mel Vergarra has moved up and way undercover from our minor league FES to Majors! Way to go, Mel ... you're our very own Rampart Serpico! Det. John Lortz is out to AD. P2 Robert Perez is available for your traffics over at CTD. We'll be looking you up, Puppet! P2 Gabriel Blanco hits the Sunset Strip over in Hollywood. New P2 Ed Palacios is out to Northeast and finally done with his probation after a being deployed for nearly two years. P2 Rodney Williams also made the cut and passed probation, he's out to 77th. On that same note, our favorite boot Santiago Gascon reminded me the other day that he too has gone on to join the ranks of the mighty P2 dawgs outta Rampart! Way to go Oz!

Caper Blurbs

P3 Matt Zeigler and P2 Damien Levesque get an MS'er trying to ditch a gun while strolling down Leeward. They jam him up and recover the strap yet he feared being violated on the gang injunction more so than the gun! Where's Fox News when you need 'em?!

P3 Kim Cisco and P2 Miguel Dominguez hear a couple of rounds pop off down the street and then pursue a car full of Rockwood shooting suspects through Rampart. The knuckleheads eventually TC and you'd think that they would give up, right? Nope, the monster of a beast in the passenger seat gets out and tries to take on both P3s Robert Guyer and Justin Stewart. With a quick front kick, a heave and a ho ... Bobo, Stewie and P2 Chris Razo get him to the ground and in custody! It is later found that multiple victims had been shot and the cowards were identified as the shooters. Great police work!

P3 Brandon Purece and P2 Kasey Chavez roll up on a couple of onion

heads walking down the street. A quick pat-down and one is found with a strap in his pocket.

P2s Vic Nunez and Marco Oropeza were running plates near Mr. Sippy's and ran across a C6 Chuck G-ride full of a bunch of knuckleheads. Turns out, the street punks pulled off a carjacking outta Wilshire and tried to caper through Rampart. No luck, hard charging coppers pulled the plug on that mission!

Rant

You gotta know that one of the most dreaded things on heading to court is the ridiculous parking situation officers face each morning. Officers drag themselves out of bed or off the cot early in the morning to battle horrendous traffic just to get into Downtown. Trying to park across the street from the court building has become a feat in itself. We'd been told that a mere 100 vehicles from LAPD are allowed to park in the structure at a time; we've since learned only about 30 spaces are now allotted for us! Usually, we're turned away by the attendant waving us off and pointing a finger at his LAPD Full sign. Then, we try to park a few city blocks away in another lot yet are often told to go elsewhere after a quick point at their No LAPD Parking signage. Then, it's a off to Chinatown to park in a non-gated lot nearly a mile away from the court building. Keep in mind, court doesn't start till 0830, the lots are usually closed by 0800 and we haven't even made the long walk to the court building to punch in on the 7th floor! Coppers are sending out an SOS for somebody somewhere to put an



end to our frustration and just give us a parking space!!

The governor has declared the Rampart locker room a disaster area due to flash flooding, relief efforts are underway...

Got suggestions, photos or want your latest caper recognized? It's *your* Blue Line so, please send them to TheCastle@msn.com. Be safe and stay ready.

(Editor's Note: Director Paul Weber contacted Assistant Chief George Gascon about the court parking issue. The Department discovered that our people were keeping the passes and not returning them. They were told we have approximately 100 passes missing. Chief Gascon gave direction to create new serialized passes that will be signed out to the individual. People with the old passes won't be allowed to park. With the new passes it will be easy to track anyone who does not turn them in and get them back.) ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

WE "R" THE BANK

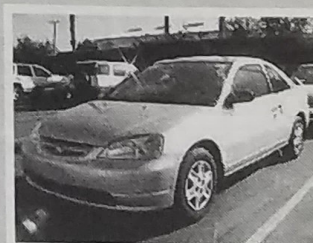
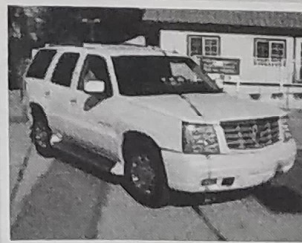
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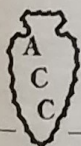


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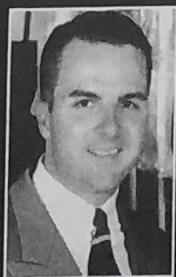
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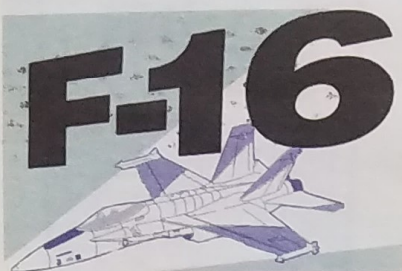
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Divisional reporter



by Julian Almaraz
Foothill Division

Foothill Patrol

Officers to be commended: P-3 Michael Smith, #26924; P-3 Casey Sbabo, #31693, P-2 Chad Butler, #34264; P-2 Victor White, #36467; P-2 Alex Valencia, #36292; P-2 Richard Soleto, #36514.

On Feb. 5, at 2030 hours, Officer Smith and Sbabo, working 16A37, responded to a man with a gun on Hoyt Street in Pacoima. Officers received additional information from the P/R that the suspect was armed with a gun

and was attempting to force his way into the residence.

Officers Butler, White, Valencia, and Sbabo responded to assist on this dangerous incident to back the primary unit. A coordinated plan was implemented between the three units, while they were enroute. Using sound tactics, the team deployed and arrested the suspect without incident. A subsequent thorough search of the suspect's vehicle resulted in the recovery of a loaded 9mm semi-auto firearm.

The officers are commended for attention to duty, teamwork, and tactics that led to the removal of a violent predator and recovery of a handgun.
— By St Bunch

To St. Reid Regarding Officers Ellwood, #34330, and Jeter, #30624

My name is Roger Avila, administrator of Pacoima Charter School. This past week, Oct. 20, 2004, I had the unfortunate experience of losing my 92-year-old grandmother, due to natural causes. These two fine police officers responded with L.A. City Fire Department. I must

acknowledge the professionalism and courtesy of both these officers. They were considerate of this difficult situation my family was experiencing and were able to contact my grandmother's physician. We were then able to contact the mortuary and to provide my grandmother with additional dignity. My family and I will forever be grateful for the quality of care and professionalism Officers Ellwood and Jeter extended to our family.

As the officers were leaving, Officer Jeter gave me his field card. As a result, I was able to provide information to the Red Cross, which made it possible for two of my cousins who are active duty with the Army and Marines to attend my grandmother's services. Words alone cannot express my family's gratitude. I hope that you are able to extend our gratitude to your officers and your division.

Foothill Sports

We will have an area softball team, led by Capt. Greer, Julian Almaraz and other outstanding officers that work the area. The team looks strong this year, and I need everyone to come out and play.

Foothill Area breakfast club met

again at Crazy Autos in Acton. There were over 20 who attended. Norm Dumas, Mike Cherry, Phil Booth, George Wright, Bob Serentino, Gary Thornton, DeJhon, Fred Tipsten, Joe Neapolitano, and many others. There will be another breakfast event next month, TBO.

Upcoming Events

We are announcing another Foothill reunion for past, present and current officers. All are invited to this event. Last year we had over 200 who attended from nearby and a lot from out of the state. This year this event will be on Wednesday, May 25, at the Burbank Airport Hilton Convention Center on Hollywood Way, from 6 p.m. to midnight. There will be special hotel rates for all that want to stay the night. The cost for this great event will be \$20 per person, which will pay for food, deejay, and well drinks. Please RSVP the first week of May to advise the hotel. Contact SLO Julian Almaraz (818) 489-0369, (818) 756-8866, or Norm Dumas. We are expecting a larger turnout. Please bring your spouses and plan for a great time. Make checks payable to Foothill Area Station Fund for the reunion.

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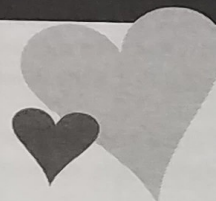
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Juvenile Journal

by Jim Johnson
Juvenile Division

Juvenile Division is losing Detective III **Marcella Piersol** to Harbor Division but is glad to announce that she made Lieutenant. Many of Marcella's friends joined her at Carmine's Restaurant in South Pasadena to celebrate her promotion. Everyone had a great time and even K.J. (retired D-III **Kathryn Jackson**) was there to encourage Marcella. Lieutenant Piersol received her new badge with her husband (retired Deputy Chief **Frank Piersol**) by her side as she was sworn in. Congratulations Marcella on your promotion, we know you will be an awesome Lieutenant.

Juvenile Division's undefeated basketball team won another game today (Feb. 23) against South Traffic Division, 53 to 35. Our basketball team consists of seven players: **Todd Waymire** (Team Captain), **Darvin White**, **Robert Cervantes**, **Sylvia Castaneda**, **Anita McKeown** (ICSB), **Dave Love** (PERG), **Troy Abordo** (CID) and **Mark Madero** (Juvenile). The playoffs start in March, come out to see



Lt. Piersol and Frank Piersol.

our team play.

Adeline Martinez (SCT) celebrated her 25 years of service with the Department. Adeline as our timekeeper does a big job making sure we all get paid correctly. Everyone enjoys working with Adeline because of her positive attitude, and you can count on her to always be smiling. To show our appreciation, Operations Section of Juvenile Division took her out to lunch at PF Chang's restaurant in South Pasadena and presented her with a beautiful placard representing her 25-year anniversary.

We would like to officially welcome



Lt. Piersol luncheon.



Lunch with Adeline Martinez.

some newcomers to Juvenile Division. Lieutenant **Bob Normandy** is on loan and will be heading our Operations Section. Officer **Julie Wickser** transferred in and Officer **Blanca Pasos** is on loan. Both officers are working the Abused Child Section.

Juvenile Division's Abused Child Unit is responsible for the investigation of deaths of children under the age of 11,

which can be a very difficult job for any detective. In May, our Abused Child Unit will be the recipient of the first annual "Circle of Love" award for the year of 2004 on behalf of the Garden of Angels, Inc. and the Safe Arms-Safe Haven Organization. Two of our detectives had the honor of naming two unidentified deceased newborn baby girls from cases they had investigated. Officer **Colin Braudrick** "honored" baby Gabriela with her name. Baby Gabriela was found in the crawl space of an apartment building. Detective **Philip Cortez** "honored" baby Kathryn with her name. Baby Kathryn was found in a storm drain outside of a church. Both babies

funeral services were held last Feb. 12. Detective Cortez felt compelled to attend the service for the baby girl he had named.

We would like to congratulate Officer **Jose Olmedo** of the Investigative Control Unit and his fiancée, **Collen Traynor** (Audit Division), who plan to wed on March 5.



by Larry Wehage
Newton Division

Danny Makes His Move to Vice

After years as a mover and shaker in the CLEAR unit, **Danny Putz** has taken up residence in the Vice Unit for a tour of misdemeanor police work. Danny is a professional through and through. It is a rare moment to see him without a smile. Sure hope you enjoy your new assignment. Dan, don't worry, the NHL will be playing again next year.

I've Only Been Caught Once

Not too long ago, Lieutenant **Mike Menza** displayed his gorgeous Ford Cobra at the CTD car show. He told people about his car and he was asked to bring it in. He finally ran the Central Avenue gauntlet with his "beauty" to show it off at work. After inspecting it thoroughly, we realized that he was parked in the Captain's parking spot. Mike's comment, "I always park in the Captain's spot. I've only been caught once."

Tracy and Mark

On Feb. 21, **Tracy Foster** and Newton's own **Mark Wheeler** tied the knot in Las Vegas. Relatives flew in from as far away as New York and many of Mark's friends drove in for the celebra-



tion. Mark apparently has friends in the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the Costa Mesa Police Department, 77th Street Area, and Newton Area. May you enjoy your lives together and take some advice from a veteran of the "Alimony is my Life Squad," do what you can on a daily basis to make each other happy.

Reserves Volunteer at the Academy Awards

On Feb. 27, six Reserve Officers from Newton volunteered to assist at the Academy Awards with arrestee transportation. Last year's event had a few problems with last-minute arrestee booking delays, so this year the Reserve Officers decided that they could handle it. The officers efficiently transported 11 trespassers to Hollywood jail for processing. Many accolades were received and the Reserves will undoubtedly be invited back next year. Additionally, Police Officers **Susan Hillman-Speakman** and **Jose Santiago** did an outstanding job at the jail facilitating the booking process. So to you six: **Phil Iki**, **Dan Keelan**, **Henry Maldonado**, **Rick Teunis**, **Dan Stephens**, and **Tim Bourquin**, congratulations on a job well done. As a final comment about the LAPD Reserve Corps: these people work for a measly \$50 a month and they don't complain, whine, cry, or submarine (you know what I'm talking about). What a pleasure

it is to work with such fine people.

He Looks Like Benny Hill

Police officers are usually very observant and notice the little subtleties that help them identify suspects involved in criminal activity. Once in awhile, they use this attribute for other reasons. While in idle conversation, one officer said, "Hey, you know, if **Captain Kane** gave a British salute, he would look just like **Benny Hill**." Now that's funny.

Weddings, Weddings, Weddings

I don't have the details, but I heard from a "birdie" that **Monica Lobato** and **Garrett Cross** tied the knot this month as expected. As more details and photos arrive, they will be included in a future *Blue Line* article.

You Might Be a Newton Cop (Yep, I'm at It Again)

If your entire wardrobe contains only

Levis and white T-shirts, you might be a Newton cop.

If you buy Newton souvenirs to give to family members, you might be a Newton cop.

If you buy the souvenirs as their birthday gifts, you definitely might be a Newton cop.

If you understand the meaning, "No Gee Hoover Wetness," you might be a Newton cop.

If you recently stopped watching TV because there's enough drama at work, you might be a Newton cop.

If you have NEVER signed on to a LAN computer, you might be a Newton cop.

And finally, if you ever showed up at work and learned that you were on an RDO, you might be a Newton cop.

You can reach me at lwehage@aol.com

More Divisional Reporter on next page



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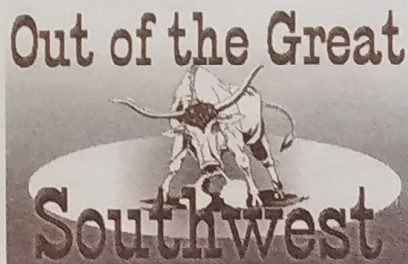
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Divisional reporter



by Terri Scott
Southwest Division

Birth Announcement

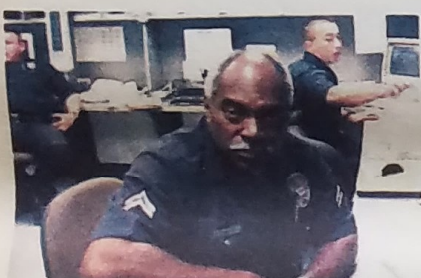
Det. Kira Davey (recently transferred) gave birth to a gorgeous baby boy - **Sean Erik** (Feb. 01) 6 lbs, 19 3/4 inches. Good work mommy. A mom is a Super Hero out of uniform. For little Sean - Your mother is your compass in life, always pointing in the right direction but leaving the steering to you.

April Food For Thought

Worrying does not empty tomorrow of its troubles, it empties today of its strength.

Congratulations Officer Barnes!!

Here is a very happy photo of Officer of the Year from the L.A. Optomist



Officer Byron Barnes

Club. Way to go **Byron**.

Quiz: Does anyone know how many years **Officer London** has been patrolling Southwest? (answer next edition).

Harbor Winds Blew in an Officer Perez (A Little Ray of Sunshine)

Ofcr. Perez landed at Southwest's

front desk. As you can see in the photo he has made himself at home. A typical pleasant day at Southwest front desk consists of the phone lines (ALL OF THEM) ringing incessantly (with citizens wanting to explain complicat-



Officer Perez

ed one-hour stories with all the twists and turns of a tornado), we usually have at least two citizens from the various local mental health facilities who sit on the front lobby benches (knitting, putting make-up on, or occasionally asking incoherent questions), top that off with child custody visits all day long in the front lobby (always crying, screaming, upset children/parents), then add the stream of foot traffic needing reports. It seems Ofcr. Perez is on the transfer list back to Harbor Division, WHY? He'll regret it and come back, I'm sure of it.

Southwest GED

Considering patrol generally has an MDT full of radio calls peppered with Code 3 calls that run us around the division in circles, sometimes it seems barely enough time to make a pit stop or eat, let alone squeeze in traffic enforcement.

Thankfully, that's where these guys come in with their directed patrol on Southwest's Violent Gangs. They definitely have their job cut out for them (especially in the hot summer months). We do appreciate them and do notice the tanks are always full when they are around. You really have to consider the resolve to stay in a unit in which complaints taken from gang members (manipulating the system) to get revenge on the officers is prevalent.

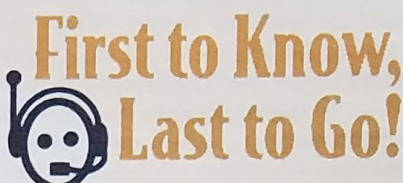
All of our GED Officers serve the community professionally and diligently despite the consequences, especially at Southwest.



Southwest GED

'Times' Article by Jack Dunphy (LAPD Officer)

I don't have enough room to include a recent article, a scathing attack on the newspapers bias in reporting the news, especially concerning LAPD. If you didn't get the pleasure of reading it, send a request to my city e-mail and I'll forward it. It was thoughtfully and very intelligently articulated.



Department Command Post
& Communications Div.

by Lt. Chuck Mealey
Communications Division

Bridge Solution

During DP2 and a part of DP3 all the dispatch floor activities (911 calls and dispatch) have been operating out of the Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC). Technical upgrades are being made at the Metro Center that is basically empty. During DP4 West Bureau radio will be moving to the VCDC to join Valley Bureau radio. Communications will be adding 50 additional personnel to the Valley operation. Not an easy task! Most of our PSRs have worked Downtown for years. Most do not live in the Valley. All the Santa Clarita/Valley PSRs are cur-



Sgt. Mark Ehling consults with Senior PSR April Hoff.

INS:

Welcome to the Great Southwest newly promoted PIIIs to SGTs (Congratulations) Sgt. Lumpkin, J and Sgt. Ramirez, C. Also welcome aboard new PII Dogs Hadley, B. and Landeros, J. Be prepared for a busy hectic summer in Southwest. The Crenshaw Cruisers are already creeping out, add that to gang crime, miscellaneous crime, alcohol, crack, and heat. Another Southwest summer heating up despite recent rain storms.

OUTS:

Buh-Bye to Ofcr. Quesada, R / Ofcr. Perez, M / Selleck, J / Sgt. Caterino, Y / Sgt. Probst, G. Good luck to all of you, stay safe and take care.

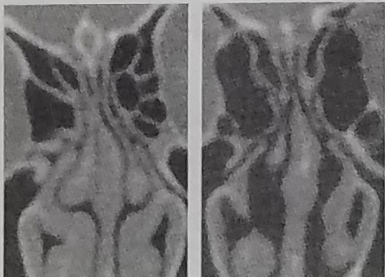
(Editor's Note: See Corina Lee's article on page 9.)

rently working at VCDC. To bring up our Valley deployment from 130 to 180 will require bumping PSRs to the VCDC. Not fun when you live in Moreno Valley or South Orange County. It took one PSR over 3 1/2 hours to get home recently from the VCDC. The pull of free parking vs. paying \$4 per day to park Downtown is helpful. Communications Division is continually recruiting in the West Valley area. Bottom line: If a PSR seems be a little on the edge - she may have been forced to drive a great distance to come to work. We are looking for PSR classes to hopefully resume in June and if you know a "Valley" person let them know about the benefits of working as a PSR.

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VANNUYS Happenings

by Lydia C. Grzelkowska
Van Nuys Division

Employee Recognition Luncheon

The Employee Recognition Luncheon Ceremony took place at Mission Community Hospital on Feb. 22. Channel 2 News Traffic Broadcaster Vera Jimenez did a great job MC'ing this special event. Well-deserving recipients were as follows: Officer of the Year was presented to **Anthony Smith**, #34495, Sergeant of the Year went to **Donald Muniz**, #26752, Detective of the Year was presented to **Luis Alarcon**, #30383 and Civilian of the Year went to **Kathy**

Smith, #E8864. Congratulations to all recipients!

Baby News

Congratulations to Detective **Luis Alarcon** and his wife, **Violeta Alarcon**, on the birth of their baby boy, **Cristian Alarcon**. Cristian was born on May 20, 2004 weighing 7lbs. 15 oz. and was 20 1/2" long. Have fun with your new bundle of joy!

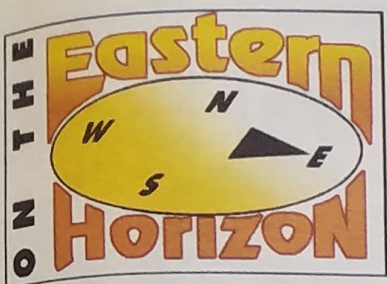
Thanks!

A heart felt thank you to everyone who participated in the bake sale for Officer Bui. Please continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Ins-N-Outs

Leaving: **B. Hillman**, #27933 (to RAMP); **R. Zavala**, #31088 (to HWD); **C. Carlozzi**, #32629 (to CID); **E. Eaton**, #31488 (to MISON); **J. Flores**, #33231 (to 77)

Coming in: **C. Setzer**, #31498 (from WVAL); **T. Hope**, #37083 (from WIL); **R. Amores**, #37065 (from WVAL); **M. Garcia**, #36494 (from WVAL); **J. Castillo**, #37224 (from PER).



by Ruben Rodriguez
Hollenbeck Division

April is upon us and with it arrives the start of the regular baseball season. Will this be the year that my Dodgers finally come through and deliver us a world championship? Well, it doesn't cost much to dream. Hope your Easter was enjoyable in the company of your loved ones.

Happy Retirement

On Friday, Feb. 18, P3 Lynn Scott spent her last day as an LAPD officer, after 20 years of dedicated service. Training Unit's own Officers Bob Garcia and Mando Flores could not let Lynn escape the halls of Hollenbeck quietly, so they developed a plan for a farewell surprise. Like David Copperfield protégées, Bob and Mando produced a cake and a bouquet of flowers. Day watch officers bid their best wishes to Lynn as they presented her with the "retirement" cake and the beautiful flowers.

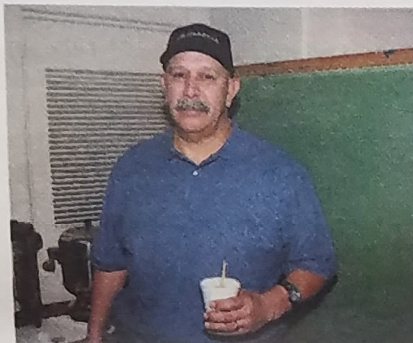
Lynn, the Hollenbeck family wishes you a happy retirement. If you ever come back our way, please stop in and



say hello. Good tidings.

...and Speaking of Bob Martinez

After a very long tenure at Hollenbeck Division, Bob has left the building. Bob has been reassigned to PAB where he will continue to work the property room. Bob went kicking and screaming and wanted me to let everyone know that he will dearly miss all the officers that he has had the pleasure and honor to work



with through the years. Bob hopes to be back once the new police station is built

and back in business. Bob, we wish you the best of luck and hope to see you back in the very near future.

Baby News

The stork has once again visited the Ramirez household, this time depositing a beautiful baby girl. Little **Samantha Ashley**, daughter of **Chris** and **Brenda Ramirez**, made her presence known on December 22, weighing in at 7 lbs., 4 oz. and measuring 20 inches in length. She entered the world at precisely 9:49 p.m. at San Antonio Community Hospital in the city of Upland. Baby Samantha is



doing well and joins big brother Tyler in the Ramirez household. Good fortune comes in bunches as Chris has also been recently promoted to Sergeant and is now assigned to Southwest Division. Chris and Brenda, congratulations on your family addition and may your new bundle of joy have a long, healthy and prosperous future. Chris, congratulations also on your promotion and good luck in your new assignment. Now that you are a Sergeant, do I have to call you Sir?

Hoops

As of this writing, the Hollenbeck

basketball team was undefeated and on the road to a championship as the playoffs were underway. I will update you on the next issue on the hoopsters' progress.

Baker to Vegas

This year's Challenge Cup Relay is set for the weekend of April 23 and 24. Our team is set but we may still be in need of some volunteer assistance. If you would like to be part of the support team, there may still be a place for you. Hope to see you there, even if your intent is just to enjoy the festivities.

Welcome

A Hollenbeck welcome goes out to Sgt. **D. Sears**, now assigned to Hollenbeck, after a stint at Northeast Division, where he was a Detective. We also welcome Sergeants **D. Morales** and **R. Sanchez**, who have moved east over the L.A. River, from Central Division.

So Long

Good tidings and best wishes go out to Sgt. **J. Cordova**, now supervising the troops at Hollywood Division.

Que Paso?

This month's salute goes out to my good buddy, **Joe "The lone wolf" Chacon**. Has anyone seen Joe?

See you next month. Please forward me any and all information that you would like to see included in this monthly column.



by Cathy Hardy
Metropolitan Division

Greetings from the hub. I hope the Easter Bunny didn't get stuck in the mud delivering your Easter eggs!

Up/Out

Congratulations to former Staff Security Detail personnel member **Mike Henderson**. Mike decided he had enough of the unlimited overtime and his new cruiser. He has promoted to Sgt. I and will delight in a shorter commute, albeit via POV, to the brand-new North Valley, a.k.a. Mission Station. North-Mission is set to open sometime this

spring. For the pre-millennium Thomas Guide owners, the new station is located about halfway between Foothill Division and the division formerly known as the Club, south of the 405/5 Freeway split/merge and north of Rinaldi Blvd. I'm quite sure Mission-North will match the logistical wonders of our latest, greatest and newest police facilities. I can't wait to visit it and G.P.S. my way to the watch commander's office.

Meanwhile, back at the pristine Fort Davis facility, a few stars have been awarded. **Ed Villalta** is the new Jr. Plus One of B Platoon. The Metro Cavalry handed down Plus-One upgrades to **Rudy DeLeon** and **Terry Keenan**. Congratulations to the new assistant squad leaders.

On Monday, Jan. 31, 41 to 54 members and alumni gathered at the Academia for the annual SWAT dinner. Awards for Sniper of the Year and SWAT Officer of the Year were presented. The 2004 recipients were **Rich Alba** for sniper and **Joe Martinez** for officer. Congratulations, gentlemen.

Maternity Ward

Congrats to B Teamer **Dave Corbet** and wife Erica on the arrival of their



firstborn, son **Tyler Reed**. Baby Corbet arrived on Feb. 9 at 1234 hours. He weighed in at 6 lbs., 9 oz.

Injured Reserve Roster

Wishing a speedy recovery to K9 40 **Steve Gomez** and B Teamer **Mike**

Glenn. Welcome back to **Mark Blizzard**, **Auston Price**, **Brian "HA" O'Hara**, **Mike Barker** and **Jay Nam**.

Happy Birthday To You!

Another year of wishes to our 114 Rams and Bulls. Happy birthday to **Bruce Adam**, **Wes Albin**, **Donnie Anderson**, **Kevin Brawner**, **Gary "Dance Fever" Copeland**, **Jim Curdes**, **Bruce Hunt**, **Pat Kouri**, **Ray Nonora**, **Jaime Rubalcava**, **Steve Scallon**, **Paul "The Brat" Seban**, **Mike Sledd**, **Mark Storti**, **Jeff Tepich**, **Ken Thatcher (D)**, **Steve Wills** and the eldest **Zuniga** brother, **Pete**. Sending a special long distance wish to **Don "Frenchy" Poirier**. At press time our All-American French surnamed Marine was still stateside preparing for a second tour to the sands of Iraq. Stay safe, Frenchy. BOL for care packages from home dutifully orchestrated by Mrs. Kelli Pickart.

Until next time, R-10 girl, clear.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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Divisional reporter

Not Ho news

by Esther Niell
North Hollywood Division

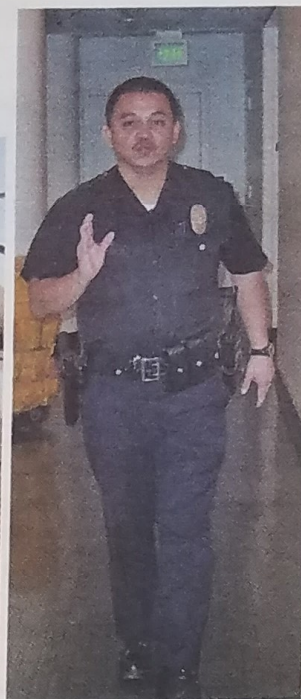
Hello Everyone!!

Sgt. Chili Vasquez recently got a letter from one of our very own officers who is currently serving his country in Iraq. It was a touching letter and very worth sharing with everyone.

A big hello from Baghdad. I hope all is well. I have been very busy since arriving from Ft. Hood, TX. You would not believe the stuff that I have experienced! I now know what tracers really look like when they are being shot in your direction...-(I tell you though I have hit more frickin' birds flying in this place then I thought was possible. As you know I left back in Jan of 04. I was walking out of



Officer Bob Mariotti in front of his helicopter.



I'm off to see the wizard!



Smile! You're on candid camera!

tion with a certificate authenticating that the flag was flown in Iraq in my helicopter. Well, I think that is it for now. I will have some great pictures to show off and video clips of what I have experienced.

P.S Did I mention the mortar and rocket attacks we encounter often here at the FOB (Forward Operating Base)?

Take care. I'll write again soon.

- Officer Bob Mariotti

Not only does Celeste, Hailey, Brody and baby Chole miss ya, we all do too. We look forward to having you back!! Bob, and to all the other brave, incredible individuals who are protecting us so far away, I salute you!!!

Be safe out there everybody!

1 Northeast corner

by Susan Carrasco
Northeast Division

Commendable Capers #1

Officers **Loera** and **Lona** were working patrol when they observed a vehicle stopped at a stop sign at York Blvd. and Milwaukee Ave. The vehicle had no license plates. The officers began to follow the vehicle. The driver accelerated the vehicle and attempted to evade the officers. The officers activated their overhead emergency lights and siren in order to stop the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle immediately pulled to the curb and exited the vehicle. He then fled the location on foot, leaving behind a woman and two small children inside the vehicle. The officers, continuing their investigation, detained the woman and completed a VIN inquiry in the

DMV system. The vehicle returned as a Northeast Area stolen vehicle. The officers immediately set up a perimeter in the area in order to locate the man that had fled from the vehicle. Metro K-9 Officers **Peters** and **Goosby** responded to the perimeter and conducted a systematic search with Canine Adjo. Adjo located the man hiding in a backyard next to a shed. The man was arrested for GTA and treated for a dog bite. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of all the involved officers and Canine Adjo, another of Northeast's criminals is off the streets of our community.

#2

On Feb. 9, Detectives **Milewskie** and **Henderson**, assigned to Northeast Burglary Detectives, were assigned a residential burglary report. The report indicated that when the victim arrived home she opened her garage door and observed the door to the house open. The light inside the house was on. She dialed 911 from her cell phone. While speaking to the police dispatch, two male Armenians walk out of her house, down the driveway and passed behind her car. They entered a black vehicle and drove south from the location. As the suspects fled the location, the victim obtained the vehicles license number and provided it to dispatch. Uniformed officers **Honor** and **Park** responded and conducted the

preliminary investigation.

Detective **Henderson** conducted a DMV run on the license number the victim had obtained from the suspects vehicle, which revealed it to be a 1994 Acura Legend four door, black in color. The information further revealed that the vehicle was registered just blocks away from the victim's residence. Detective **Henderson** also completed a citation check that revealed that the registered owner of the Acura had received at least four citations in the vehicle and with the same address. A criminal check of the registered owner revealed that he had a felony arrest in 2003 and was on felony probation. Additionally, the detectives collected a tool from the victim's residence that had been left by the suspects. The tool had been used to smash open the victim's window in order to gain entry.

Detective **Hovhanessian** had prior knowledge of the suspect and began to assist in the investigation. He and Detective **Vargas** responded to the suspect's residence. They spoke to the mother of the suspect, who advised them that he was not home. They left her a business and she was advised to contact them when he returned.

Approximately two hours later, the suspect's mother contacted Detective **Hovhanessian** and advised him both of her sons would be home at 7 p.m. The detectives responded back to the residence where the suspect's brother was located but not the suspect.

The CAT team, Officers **Amundson** and **Shortle**, began surveillance on

suspect's residence. The suspect, driving the vehicle used in the burglary, parked the vehicle in front of the residence and exited the vehicle. The officers approached the suspect and took him into custody without incident.

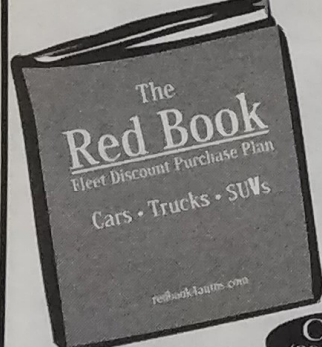
Detectives **Henderson**, **Sanchez** and **Matsuda** responded to location. The suspect gave Detectives verbal consent to search his vehicle. They discovered property in the vehicle with the victim's name on it. The suspect admitted participation in the burglary and gave a detailed account of the burglary. The detectives received additional information, which lead to additional arrests and recovery of property.

Detectives, officers and Deputy County Probation Officer **Brown** are commended for their attention to duty, tenacious work habits and teamwork that led to the successful arrest of two Burglary suspects and the recovery of most of the property taken in the burglaries.

Coming and Going

Congratulations Officer **Carol Allen** and Detective **Dan Sears**! After a long wait, the Department has made promotions to the rank of sergeant. We are all very sorry to see Sergeant **Carol** leave us and we will miss her nighttime baked goods. **Carol** will be a very good addition to the Wilshire community. Sergeant **Sears** should be going off to **Hollenbeck**. (Last I heard he wanted to stay in our wonderful gang unit.)

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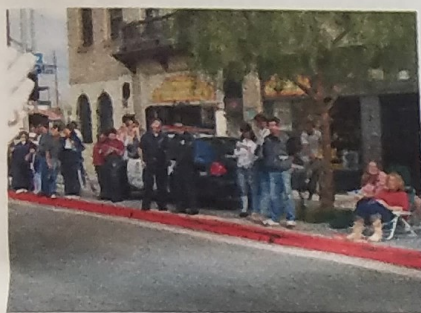
by Marie Kardiban
Central Division

Parade

On Feb. 12, Captain Blake Chow and his family were in the Dragon Parade with Mayor Hahn in Chinatown celebrating Chinese New Year. Central Area had a



Captain Chow with daughter Thea.



Officer "Shep" Ruvalcaba (left) and Officer Matthew Shuck at the parade.

Crime Prevention booth with Officers and Explorers who were doing "Kids Print" for the Chinatown community.

Funny Caper

On Feb. 13, at approximately 1400 hours, Officer Ramon Carreon and Officer Antonio Gutierrez were assigned to unit 1A61 when they received a radio call to respond to 1330 South Olive Street regarding an ambulance ADW. Officer John Melendez and Officer Robert Quezada (G21) responded to assist. The officers arrived at the location, along with LAFD and were met by the PR who stated, "Hurry up, I stabbed someone in my room and he is bleeding." To the officer's surprise, they immediately detained the PR/suspect. Sometimes the case closes itself.

Thank you, Sgt. Daryl Lewis for the info.



(left) Officer Avila and Officer Gonzales (right)

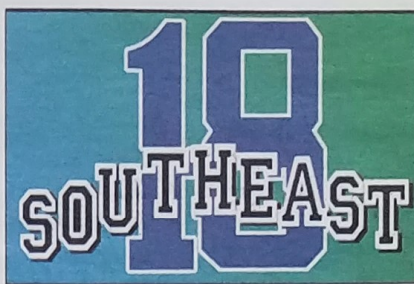
Barbeque

On Sunday, Feb. 13, the Supervisors of Watch 3 and 5 put on a barbeque for their people. The supervisors of that watch chipped in to provide the great food to their hardworking officers. I apologize for not naming each one of you that was so generous. The officers of those watches would like to thank the supervisors and everyone involved who took the time to thank them for their hard work and provide a wonderful code-7.

Commendable Caper

On March 22, at approximately 1725 hours, Police Officer II Leonard Avila #34033 and Police Officer II, Robin Gonzales, #36116, assigned 1Z3 Watch 2, were northbound on Broadway approaching Olympic Blvd. when they were flagged down by a group of citizens. Someone yelled out "He is not breathing!" Officer Avila advised Communications that he was Code 6 on a man who was unconscious and not breathing. Avila and Gonzales then exited the black and white and approached the group. At this point, they observed a male Korean holding his 21-month-old son. The baby did not appear to be breathing. Avila advised Communications that the victim was a baby and not an adult. Avila then took the baby from the father to assess the baby's condition. He placed the baby's chest on the palm of his hand to feel for a heartbeat and laid him face down across his knee. The father then struck the baby lightly on the upper back as if trying to dislodge something the baby was choking on. The baby began to vomit and cry. Since the baby was now crying, Officer Avila determined that CPR was not necessary. Fire Department personnel arrived and transported the baby to hospital. The baby is listed in good condition.

Officer Avila is commended for his alertness, attention to duty, selflessness, poise under pressure and commitment to service excellence. His quick actions ensured that this baby survived this life-threatening emergency and turned what could have been a tragic situation into a happy ending.



by Mike Tolmaire
Southeast Division

Southeast is back on the map! Over the last six months, the 108th St. Division has experienced phenomenal changes. Due to the shortage of Police Officers last summer, Southeast began beefing up patrol in the final months of 2004. Since November of last year, Southeast has added approx 20-30 new Officers to help combat criminal activity in the Division.

Southeast has also experienced recent renovations within the station. Highlighting the divisional changes: the area office, report writing room, front desk and detective floor have undergone extensive upgrades. The walls and doors inside the station have also received fresh coats of paint.

Farewell Sergeant

As Southeast welcomes in new chang-

es, we must also say goodbye to one of our legends. After providing the city with 30-plus years of honorable service and commitment, Sgt. II Henry Quan stepped down from his watch commander duties in January to join those in the comfortable lifestyle of retirement. From all of those who had the pleasure of working with you, we say thank you Sgt. Quan! Thank you for the memories! You will be missed!

Sports Capsule

The LAPRAAC bench press competition returns this spring. After stunning 77th a few months ago to capture the championship, Southeast will be striving to retain its title.

The competition will take place on May 13. If you are interested in being a part of the Southeast Bench press squad, contact Sonny Garcia for more information.

The Southeast flag football team defeated Pacific in the championship game to take the intradepartmental 2004 flag football title. The team closed out its season with a perfect record, finishing 10-0. Congratulations to the football team on an excellent season!

Basketball season is also under way. Our "B" and "C" league teams are finishing up the regular season and entering the playoffs. Good luck to both teams!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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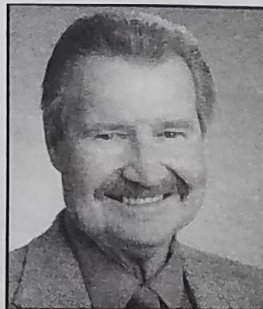
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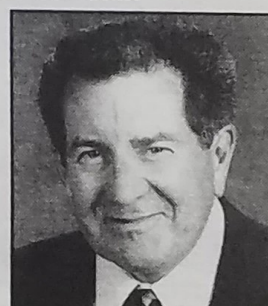
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Sports beat

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports "Shorts"

by Ruben Espalin, Athletic Coordinator

Baker to Vegas is on!!

As of press time, the Challenge Cup Relay will be run in less than 20 days! The participants are getting the last minute preparations in place. Who will be the team to beat this year, SD, LAPD women? Look for the recap in the May issue of the *Blue Line*.

Intradepartmental Basketball Playoffs

Can you say playoffs? Yes the basketball season is into the meat of the season with the playoffs beginning Feb. 28. Who will come out on top, PAB, Juvenile? Look for playoff coverage and photos in the next issue of the *Blue Line*.

Memorial Run Date Set

The date has been established for the Memorial Run for 2005, June 18. The location will be at the L.A. Police Academy. Parking will be available at Dodger Stadium but unfortunately the run cannot be go through the stadium. This event figures to be a strong event with many activities for the kids and adults alike. Look for flyers and info in the upcoming months.

World Games and Western States Games

Remember the dates for the World Games in Quebec is June 26 - July

6. Books are available in the Athletic Department.

The dates for the Western States Games in Reno is July 23 - 31.

World Games website is www.2005wpfg.org

Western States website is www.wspfg2005.org

Please call Ruben Espalin in the Athletic Department for further information.

Bench-Press Roundtable Notes

Present at the discussion were: **Chuck Gourley** Ret, **Paul Von Lutzow** 77th, **Bob Heredia** Comm, **Sam Arase** Per, **Alexander Ortiz** Hwd, **Lou Leiker** SOE, **Troy Collins** PRD, **Anita Whited** Comm, **Matt Okubu** SOE, **Sam Collela** Ret, **Patti Braendle** Ramp, **Ruben Espalin** LAPRAAC, **Josiah Segerquist** LAPRAAC.

- Next contest date was discussed - Agreement was reached to have the competition on May 13 and the weigh-ins occur on May 11-12 at the LA Police Academy gym.
- A vote occurred to allow 3"-4" wrist wraps for competition and the decision was to have them as an option for the lifters.
- A vote on bench shirts and the vote was no. In addition, all judges will remind participants to tuck in shirts during lifts as this has gotten out of control.
- Form-fitting shorts only for competition, no basketball shorts allowed. This

will be stressed at weigh-ins and on the application as well as phone calls to the respective Captains. Singlets will be accepted as well. Shorts need to be above the knee.

• There will be a 70-plus category added as the group thought that was appropriate.

• Retirees can lift for their last division as long as LAPRAAC can identify what division they last worked for. Basically there needs to be proof. This was an old rule and will stay intact.

• The age groups will be put into five-year increments instead of 10. For example: 21-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, etc.

• The issue of civilians lifting came up and is now an issue for the committee to decide. In addition, the issue of mixed teams (like B to V) came up. This also is a discussion for the committee. March/April decision for October implementation.

• The grips that lifters use are a hot topic, as they need to be correct. Judges will be enforcing the grip rule during competition.

• Deadline for team Captains to have their team list in to **Ruben** or **Josiah** is 3 p.m. on Thursday before competition.

• Weigh-ins will be only at LAPRAAC gym and the weigh-ins will be conducted with minimal clothing. Work belts will not be allowed as well as work boots. This will be enforced at the weigh-ins.

• Practice benches will be part of the room next to the gym to allow for more space. An additional bench will be added as well.

• Retirees and older folks will always

lift first.

• Spotters will be at the competition at 8 a.m. on the actual day to get an overview from the main judge.

• **Chuck Gourley** and **Sam Collela** will do the spotter orientation.

• New mats will be ordered for the May competition. Samples were passed around.

• A motion was brought up that the next meet should be in **Larry Moore's** name, with his daughter present. The Sports Committee will decide this at a later date.

This group will meet at three times a year to discuss the competitions and to make sure that improvement is occurring at this event.

Tickets Available at the Main LAPRAAC Office

Remember that discounted tickets are available for Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, etc.

For a list of available attractions, visit the LAPRAAC office or call (323) 221-5222 ext. 201.

We Welcome Your Articles

Submitting an article for "Sports Shorts" is the best way to get sports-related information out to a wide range of active and retired LAPD personnel. (To be included we must receive articles - via fax or e-mail - no less than three days before the end of current month. E-mail articles to rdespalin@lapraac.com or fax to (323) 222-0629. Photos are welcome.

DESERT REFUGE for PEACE OFFICERS

GOLF TOURNAMENT

07/15/2005

Check In: 1030 hrs | Tee Off: 1200 hrs

Knollwood Country Club

12040 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344

Tournament Format:

18 Hole Scramble / 4 Person Teams
Fees include: Green Fees, Golf Cart
Dinner and Awards



DRPO Golf Tournament Mail Entry Form

Participants: 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Number of Players X \$100.00 Total Due: _____
GOLF FEES: \$100 PER PLAYER | PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO DRPO

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Return with payment to:

DRPO
ATTN: Ann Brunzell
250 East First Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

For more information, please call Ann at
(661) 406-6399 or (213) 485-8873
E-mail: abrunzell@msn.com

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

\$500 Includes Tee Sign & 2 Players
\$1,000 Includes Tee Sign & 4 Players
\$40 Dinner Ticket Only

In Memory of Sergeant Kelly Shea EOW December 27, 2004 "The 2nd Annual Kelly Shea Divisional Golf Cup"

Hosted by the Pacific Area Boosters Association and LAPD Pacific Area



Benefiting LAPD Pacific Area's Youth Programs & Officers

Monday, June 13, 2005
MountainGate Country Club
12445 Mountain Gate Drive
Los Angeles
(310) 476-6215

Department Trophy for Best Area/Divisional Team
2004 Kelly Shea Divisional Golf Cup Winner
ATD

Will be defending their title

\$150.00 per player

18 Hole

Shotgun Start

Includes: Green fees, cart, gift bag, breakfast & lunch

For more information & sign-ups contact:

Officer Michelle Eskridge / Officer Lupe Palomares 310-202-2890
or
Officer Dwayne White 310-482-6478

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The ride will take place
May 7, 2005 through May 16, 2005

Each rider must raise \$1500 to
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For additional information
contact Officer Craig White, L.A.P.D.
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www.policeunitytoursocal.org



L.A.P.D. Centurion Wrestling Team

The Centurion Wrestling Team is preparing for the 2004
Western States Police and Fire Games in Reno (July
2005) and the World Police & Fire Games in Canada
(July 2005)

The Centurion Wrestling Team has become one of the premier athletic
programs in public safety sports. The program has been successful at the
State Games as well as securing medals at the International Games and
World Police & Fire Games.

The Centurion Wrestling Team competes in the Olympic wrestling
disciplines of Freestyle and Greco Roman. Our program is developmental
and utilizes world-class coaches. We have transitioned numerous high
school and college wrestlers into successful Olympic style wrestlers.

This season we are fielding three teams

30 and under (Open)

30 to 40 years old (Seniors)

40 and over (Masters). ***Note retired members are welcomed

BE A PART OF A WINNING TRADITION

Practices will be located at East Los Angeles College (ELAC) located at 1301
Adventia Caesar Chavez in Monterey Park.
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 pm 2005 (drop-in format)

The College is located off the 60 Freeway. Exit Atlantic N/B to W/B Caesar
Chavez. Parking at a day rate is located in the lot adjacent to the baseball field.
The Wrestling room is located adjacent to the Gymnasium.

centurionwrestling@charter.net

For more information contact

Officer Mark Mireles, West Valley Area, at 818.613.9263 (Team Manager)
Or

Mr. Ralph Valle 323.415.5300 (ELAC Wrestling Coach)

2005 LAPD Centurions Football Schedule

Saturday April 9, 2005 - 2 pm
Phoenix Thunder
Junipero Serra High School
1480 S. Van Ness Ave.
Gardena, CA 90249

Saturday, April 30, 2005
FDNY's Bravest
Monsignor Ferrell High School
2900 Ambory Road
Staten Island, NY 10306

Saturday, May 21, 2005
At LA Heat
Location and Time TBA

Saturday, June 4, 2005
Championship Game
Location TBA

Tickets and Gate Admission are \$5.

Children 16 and under are free.

For additional information please contact Sharlene Johnson at (213) 473-
0419 or visit our website for updates.

www.lapdcenturions.com

"HONORING OUR FALLEN HERO" Steve Gajda Memorial Golf Tournament

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY JULY 22, 2005

Tee-Off Time 7:30 a.m.

Montebello Country Club

901 N. Via San Clemente

Montebello, California

For info call Joe Coria 323-265-5002 - coriajm@ah.org

Sponsors: Police Business Association of Hollenbeck

Newton Police and Boosters 11th Annual Golf Tournament

"Golf For Kids" Benefit

Sponsored By: Newton Boosters Association & P.A.L.

**Brookside
Golf Course**
1133 North Rosemont Ave.
Pasadena, CA
(626) 585-3598

18 Hole Shotgun Start 12:30pm
(Check-In 10:30 P.M.)

May 26th, 2005 Entry \$125.00 per person

Cost Includes: Golf Cart, Goodie Bag, Lunch and Dinner.

For more information call:

Sgt. Gil Curtis or Ofcr. Ken Aragon
(323) 846-3937

Hole In One Prizes
(On Selected Holes)

2005 Automobile

Door Prizes

Tee Prizes

Longest Drive - Closest To The Pin

Individual Trophies For Each Division

Dear Community Member:

The Newton Boosters Association a 501 (C)(3) organization is proud to announce its 11th Annual fund raising
golf tournament set for Thursday, May 26, 2005, at the Brookside Golf Course located in Pasadena,
California. The purpose of our golf tournament is to raise funds for the Newton Police Activities League and
The Explorer Program.

The peak hours for juvenile crimes are 2 PM to 8 PM. In the hours after the school bell rings, juvenile crime
triples. Statistics show that kids who participate in out of school activities have a better chance of staying out
of trouble. Both the Explorer and P.A.L. programs cut crime dramatically, offering young people a safe haven
from negative influences and teaching them skills and values, like responsibility, hard work and respect for
others. Currently, there are over 1000 youth involved in these programs and the numbers continue to grow.

Please join Community leaders, business professionals, along with the proud men and women of the LAPD in
a fun filled day of golf. We would also like to extend to you the opportunity to become a year round member of
our Boosters organization. Please take the time to fill out the booster membership application and help
support the youth of Los Angeles.

Tournament Application TEE & GOLF SPONSORS

1. DIAMOND TEE SPONSOR \$1,400.00
Includes: Tee-Marker and Plaque
(2) Paid Players ☐

2. GOLDEN TEE SPONSOR \$1000.00
Includes: Tee-Marker and Plaque ☐

3. SILVER TEE SPONSOR \$500.00
Includes: Tee-Marker ☐

Number of golfers: _____

COMPANY NAME _____

Golfers Entered

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Checks Payable to:
Newton Boosters Association
P.O. Box 21142
Los Angeles, CA 90021

AMOUNT PAID: _____
All sponsorships and donations are tax deductible.
Newton Boosters tax ID# 23-711-5670

Newton Boosters Association
P.O. Box 21142 • Los Angeles, CA 90021

Baker to Vegas: A Look Back

by Ray Hernandez

During the last few years, I have read with interest some articles you have published regarding the founders of the Baker to Vegas Relay. As a participant of the Death Valley Relay, I would like to provide some firsthand knowledge on this matter.

In 1978, a group of officers headed by Sgt. Ron McCarthy of Metro Division wanted to run a relay and have it entered in the Guinness Book of Records. A fundraiser was established by the Hollenbeck Police Business Council, L.A. Boys Club, and the Salesian Boys Club for youth programs on the east side, headed by Councilman Arthur Snyder of the 14th District.

On March 21, 1979, at approximately 12:01 in the morning, SWAT members, paired in twos, took off from the north entrance of Death Valley Monument above Scotty's Castle and ran the relay to the south entrance of the monument in Salsbury Pass. The distance, 116.5 miles, run in 15 hours and 46 minutes, was a record setting AAV sanctioned record and was recognized by the Guinness Book of Records. Thus the Death Valley Relay was established. Challenges to run

the next race started to come in. In 1980, the relay was renamed to "The LAST Invitational Death Valley Relay," LAST standing for Los Angeles SWAT Team. Instead of two-men legs, they were cut down to one. Every year after, the teams and the invitational grew. Finally in 1985 the participants and logistics were so immense the racers stated they could no longer handle the relay and we would have to move to a different location. Sgt. Bud Graves, a Metro sergeant, along with his wife, Becky, who handled all the paperwork, could no longer devote that much time and effort. At that time it was then handed over to the Rev. & Athletic Club, who handled sports events. Thus the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay was established.

This is not to discredit anyone, but I thought it would be nice to tell the whole story of how this run was started and recognize the men who had this vision to run a relay in a location that had only been run once before in the time of 28 hours.

Sincerely,
Ray Hernandez, #13658
Metro Retired
P.S. If you disagree, you can reach me at panson13658@aol.com.

LAPD Golf Club

by Fred Cueto

The LAPD Golf Club held its first Tournament of the year on February 16th at Rancho Park. Believe it or not, the rain stopped, the sun came out and the sweaters and jackets came off!!! It turned out to be a great day for golf!

The Winners for the day were:

1st Place, Gross - Glenn Plahy
2nd Place, Gross - John Zambos
3rd Place, Gross - Marianus von Korff

1st Place, Net - Leonard Miller
1st Place, Callaway - Pete Casey

1st Place, Team Gross - Steve Estrada/

John Zambos (Southeast)
2nd Place, Team Gross - Wayne Oatis/
Glenn Plahy (Air Support)

1st Place, Team Callaway - Erik Solter/
Cal Cunningham (Devonshire)
2nd Place, Team Callaway - Frank
Bishop/Chuck Lenane (Foothill)

Long Drive - Larry Tomlinson
Closest-to-the-Pin-
#3- Chuck Lenane, #8- Trevor Wilson,
#12- Bill Driver, and #16- Tim Gipson.

Our next Tournament will be some-
time in DP 4.
You can always contact the Club at
LAPDgolfclub@aol.com

L.A. Personal Best Award

Coach Pat Connelly receives L.A. Personal Best Award - in honor of those individuals who inspire others to be their best - dedicated to Arthur Lydiard.

The 1st Annual Los Angeles Personal Best Awards were held in Venice, California, on Saturday, Feb. 26. Pat Connelly, official coach of the L.A. Marathon and coach of the L.A. Roadrunners, was a first-time event recipient in the coaching category. NBC-TV running analyst for the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, Carol Lewis and Olympic Marathon silver medallist Meb Keflezghi were on hand to present the award. Over 100 names were submitted in nomination, and Coach Connelly was chosen by a selection board made up of representatives of running clubs throughout the Los Angeles area.

Coach Connelly was nominated

for his 40 years of coaching in Los Angeles. He donated 22 years coaching on the high school level as well as serving as an assistant cross country coach at UCLA and was the head cross country coach at USC. For the past 15 years, he has coached over 27,000 L.A. Roadrunners across the finish line in the L.A. Marathon, achieving a finish rate of 99.6 percent. A 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department, Sgt. Connelly has coached hundreds of police officers for the Annual Law Enforcement Baker to Vegas Relay and championed many teams.

Pat Connelly, a running shoe consultant for Saucony, was seen as a member of the KNBC-TV broadcast team for the L.A. Marathon on Sunday, March 6.



ATTENTION ALL BOWLERS



LAPD is forming an official LAPD bowling team/teams.
All interested are welcome.

Only two requirements:

Must be a member of LAPRAAC and
Willing to participate in several major
Police and Fire Tournaments throughout the year

For more information contact

Ofcr. Annette Hampton, TCLU (213) 485-3175 e-mail pest2003@msn.com
or Det. Mary Clemons, PSB (213) 763-3118 e-mail 27193@lapd.lacity.org



LAPD INTRA DEPARTMENT BENCH PRESS CONTEST MAY 13TH, 2005

ATTENTION LIFTERS:

WEIGH-INS (LAPRAAC GYM ONLY)

Wednesday May 11, 2005

0900 to 1600 - Academy gym (stage)

Thursday May 12, 2005

0900 to 1300 - Academy gym (stage)

COMPETITION

DATE: Friday, MAY 13, 2005

TIME: 0900

PLACE: LAPRAAC GYM

COST: \$20.00 (PAYABLE TO LAPRAAC)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
JOSIAH OR RUBEN AT 323-221-5222 EXT. 221 OR 219
IN THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

LOS ANGELES POLICE REVOLVER & ATHLETIC CLUB



UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS, SPORTS DEADLINES, MEETINGS AND GENERAL INFO AT LAPRAAC

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

April 6th - Baker to Vegas Team Captains Meeting 11:30-1:00 Gym.
April 23-24th - Baker to Vegas Run, Las Vegas.
May 11-12th - Bench Press weigh-ins, Academy gym only.
May 13th - Bench Press Competition 9-3.
June 18th - Memorial Run, LA Police Academy
June 26-July 6th - World Games, Quebec, Canada.
July 23-31st - Western States Games, Reno, Nevada.
October 12-13th - Bench Press weigh-ins, Academy gym only.
October 14th - Bench Press Competition 9-3.
November 18th - 52nd Annual Sports Awards.

General Info

Get weekly updates on schedules, changes, and any pertinent info by
calling the Wins Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.
Nike gear is available at the LAPRAAC gift shop, LAPRAAC members get
20% retail price!

Send articles and photos for Blue Line to Ruben Espalin at
rdespalin@lapraac.com.

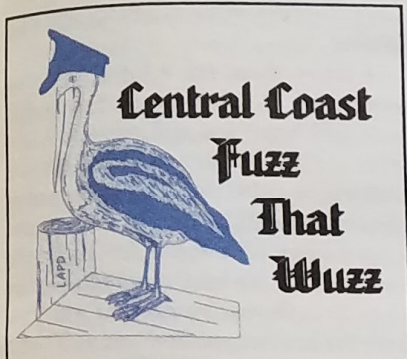
For information on these items, contact Ruben Espalin at (323) 221-5222,
ext. 219 or Josiah Segerquist at ext. 221.

Retirement



news

The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



Central Coast Fuzz That Wuzz

By Dave Aikins

Hello folks. Well, we have had enough rain on the Central Coast in one month to last the whole year. The benefits have been lush green hills and valleys spotted with grazing cattle and billowing clouds in a beautiful blue sky. The sunsets have been the best I have seen in years. People ask why **Judy** and I chose to retire on the Central Coast and I always tell them

the people are nice, the crime is low, the year-round weather is awesome, the traffic is manageable and the Fuzz functions are fun. Oh yeah, I forgot, the grandkids are within easy driving distance.

I never did like long lines. A while back, I received a notice to renew my driver's license with a required eye test at the local DMV office in San Luis Obispo. I started to panic as I remembered my trips to the DMV office in the San Fernando Valley. Thoughts of no parking spaces, a large overcrowded room, frustrated government workers and irate people screaming 87 different languages, filled the grey matter in my brain. I was provided the usual statewide 1-800 number to set up an appointment. After three days of dialing resulting in a busy signal, I decided to break ranks and go directly to the local DMV office.

To my amazement, I found plenty of room to park and upon entering the facility, discovered the atmosphere to be quiet and rather subdued. I approached the information desk and copped out



Fuzz members attending ASD Reunion. Left to right: Dave Aikins, Chuck Perriguet, Paul Mattson.

that I did not have an appointment and waited for the usual brassy retort. The nice lady looked at me, rather amused and said "No problem," and politely told me to go stand at the nearby blue line on the floor. I looked around and there was only ONE person in line. I was there about a minute, when I was called up to the counter. After a brief review of my paperwork, and a quick eye test, I was set up for an official photograph. Another nice lady was about to take my picture, when she smiled and politely told me that my collar needed adjusting. I told her I appreciated her thoughtfulness and with that strolled out the door. Total time for the ordeal was seven minutes. Okay, I'll cop out, that's another reason I like it up here.

Anyway, the Fuzz Gang had their first yearly luncheon last month in Morro Bay and I will be filling you in on that fun event next time.

Fuzz Gang at the ASD Reunion in Laughlin

On Feb. 25 and 26, an Air Support Division reunion was held at the Flamingo Hotel in the gambling town of Laughlin, Nevada. The response was super as many an old timer as well as the

currently assigned ASD personnel attended the event. At the wonderful dinner we all attended, there was a moment of silence for those members of former air crews who have passed on. Three members of the Fuzz Gang traveled to the desert to enjoy the LAPD camaraderie that flowed among the old and new air crews. Our fearless leader, **Paul Mattson**, an original observer assigned

to Air Three in 1969, along with his wife, retired **Lt. Stella Mattson**, were present. Recently retired Astro pilot and former Vietnam Marine aviator, **Chuck Perriguet** was in attendance and well as yours truly and wife, **Judy**. What a great time all of us had revisiting such a unique period in LAPD history. What these men accomplished by setting the ground work for the professionalism that we take for granted today on LAPD was remarkable. As they pioneered their way forward, they fought bureaucratic and political battles, created documentation for new budgets that included new aircraft, communication technology, and lighting equipment. Along the way, they captured dangerous felons by the hundreds, and above all made their number one priority that of safely responding to and assisting officers on the ground that needed them the most. It was an honor to be with such dedicated men and our thanks go out to **Dick Stage** and **Don Scott** for doing all the legwork to bring all these LAPD professionals together.

Catch us at pismoguyngal@charter.net

— KMA
❖

LAPD CENTRAL DIVISION REUNION

WHEN: July 17 and 18 (Sunday and Monday), 2005

WHERE: Flamingo Laughlin
1900 S. Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029
Arizona Tower 2nd Floor
Macaw II Room, Host Bar

TIME: Beginning Sunday, 7/17/05 at 4:00 p.m.

FOR RESERVATIONS: 1-800-662-5825. Reference Group Code: SLLAP05 when booking reservations.

ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS: Sunday – Thursday rate is \$19 per room*. Friday – Saturday rate is \$39 per room*.

PLEASE NOTE: *Rates do not include 9% room tax. Room types are based on availability. To receive a group discount, reservations must be made by July 3, 2005.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT: Bill Malin, (760) 574-2208 or Jerry Wyatt, (928) 763-6531. ❖

More Retirement News on next page

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NORTH HILLS

(818)892-4327

8454 Sepulveda Blvd.
(Just North of Roscoe)

Retirement news

You are invited to the 22nd Annual Pacific Northwest LAPD Retirees' Barbecue Lunch

Sunday, May 22, 2005 11 AM

At the Skidmore Ranch
Pedee Angus Station
13025 Kings Valley Highway
Monmouth, OR 97361

A detailed map and a list of nearby accommodations will be mailed at their request to those responding.

Cost is \$10.00 per person. Everyone active or retired is welcome, including spouses. Activities will include skeet/trap shoot (bring your shotgun) Horseshoes, croquet, etc. We'll discuss some pertinent updated issues of Retirees, medical insurance, spousal retirement benefits. Dress is casual. Levis, plaid shirts, boots and hat are the uniform of the day.

___ Steak and ___ Chicken will be served. Please check preferences (1 per person). Salads, baked beans, dessert, beer, & Soft drinks provided.

RSVP is required by May 15. Send remittance to:

Harold Skidmore 6279
13025 Kings Valley Hwy
Monmouth, OR 97361
503/838-5720
e-mail harandjuan@earthlink.net

Juandeane and I are looking forward to seeing you!

Dates to Remember

APRIL		Event Time/ Social	Meal
April 1	Denny Huddleston	1800	1900
April 9	LAPD Centurions vs. Phoenix Thunder	1400	
April 14	Edward Purcell	1800	1900
April 14	S.A.B.L.A.	1100	1200
April 20	Valley Retired Blues	1030	1200
April 21	Dale Hickerson & George Collier	1700	1800
April 23-24	Baker-to-Vegas Relay Race		
April 27	Inland Blue Line BBQ	1030	
April 29	James Rubert		
April 30	LAPD Centurions vs. FDNY's Bravest (there)		

MAY		Event Time/ Social	Meal
May 7	Rich Coates @ Harbor Range		
May 7	Carl Henderson	1800	1900
May 12	John DeMucha & Shelley Ekhardt DeMucha	1600	1700
May 15	National Peace Officers Memorial Day	(see pg. 33 for national & local events surround- ing this memorial throughout the month of May)	
May 18	Valley Retired Blues	1030	1200
May 21	LAPD Centurions @ LA Heat	TBA	
May 22	Pacific Northwest LAPD Retirees' BBQ Lunch		
May 25	Foothill Reunion		
May 26	Newton Police & Boosters Golf Benefit	1030	

Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next meeting will be on April 20, at The Lamplighter restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave. and Nordhoff St. We meet every month on the third Wednesday in the bar/lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. Coffee is available until orders are taken. All LAPD officers, wives/friends (active or retired) are welcome to attend. We have no membership dues and time is spent renewing friendships and reminiscing.

We had 38 attending the February 16 luncheon. The following attended: **Walter** (Barney) **Boronich** (3861), **Ted Debs** (6808), **Earnie** (3918) and **Sylvia Dicken**, **David Dotson** (10852), **Hillard** (Curly) **Elliott** (4534), **Ray Elmer** (5607), **Clinton Erickson** (5608), **Billi Feliz**, **Colleen Grogan**, **John W. Grogan** (11852), **Verne Helm** (7163), **Frank Henning** (7921), **Jake Henning** (4201), **Cliff Hodge** (10496), **Mike Jauregui** (12143), **Roy Kautz** (14384), **Dean Knouse** (6057), **Bud Long** (6680), **Boris Meneghelli** (3522), **Ernie** (5268) and **Mary Neuman**, **Jake Orbus** (5407), **Ray Palaszewski** (6934), **Pete**

Prieto (6382), **Gary Rogness** (12071), **Duane** (Whitey) **Ryburn** (3981), **Guy Schlotzhauer** (2804), **William Selesky** (11251), **Stu Stremsterfer** (4394), **Wally Tallant** (4396), **Rick Walker** (14343), **Gene Wallis** (11007), **Dean Warner** (5682), **Fred Warner** (4778), **Earl Wells** (6297), **Hal Yarnell** (3682), and **Marion Yates**. There were five new attendees this month: **David Dotson**, **Roy Kautz**, **Gary Rogness**, **William Selesky**, and **Rick Walker**.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the Valley and live in this area and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighter. We have room for another 15 to 20 in the bar/lounge area where we have the lunches, so come and visit some of the old timers.

Our meeting information and attendees are on www.larfpa.com website. Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting in April, and if you don't remember the date, remember it is always the third Wednesday of each month.

METRO REUNION

Remember when Jack Jones and Pete Clements used to cook a pig in the ground back in the early '70s? Well they want to do it again, like we did it in the good old days.

WHEN: Late June, 2005

DATE: June 24, 2005, 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Same Place, Police Academy Picnic Grounds

If interested, please contact Richard Borowski, Metro, 1969-1974, Retired LAFD at (805) 496-8416.

Ladies are welcome! ♦

77th Street Reunion SAVE THE DATE

Friday - June 10, 2005

2:00 PM to 9 PM

Harbor Range, San Pedro

BBQ (Backwoods BBQ-all you can eat) and Drinks

\$30 each - Please RSVP

Send checks to:

77th Station Fund

Attn: Maria Marquez

7600 S. Broadway

Los Angeles, CA 90003

Questions, and/or RSVP (we need a count)

Maria, Charles Howard, Art Yanez,

(213) 387-9603 or 77th Watch Commander

Dickie Simmons (909) 594-6561

DSimmons@bos.co.la.ca.us

Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (SABLA)

Spring has sprung in Sacramento! Trees are in bloom, have been for a month. Flowers are blooming! It's just a great time of the year to be in the Sacramento! The weather is mild and comfortable! C'mon by and visit us. We'd like to see you! We'll show you the "birds & the bees"!

Our SABLA people have been busy through the winter months, and they're making plans to spend some of that LAPD retirement money this summer, travelling here and there!

I've already mentioned that **Hoy Key & Wilma Laycock** are currently travelling to the capitals of China. The three-week trip will take them to all the exotic places in China. They'll be back on April 13. I'll have to talk to them about this current trip. Many of us haven't considered China for a variety of reasons.

Someone else that did a two-week African safari last month was **Lorrie Ward**! Now why **Chuck Ward** did not go with his wife is a bit of a mystery! Don't forget. Chuck is an X-LAPD Motor Officer! Lorrie was traveling with a bunch of gals that she used to work with when she was an attendant for an airline. Maybe Chuck didn't want to go with a group of women!! Now these gals were flying to Kenya to meet their guide and start the tour. She's back now, so we should get a report on how exciting that safari turned out to be!

Our SABLA "cruise guru" **Bob Keel** and wife **Ferna** did a December cruise to Hawaii! The Keels will next embark on a cruise out of Florida, to Europe. That starts May 2! Who says you can't have fun in retirement! If you want a fair critique of their cruises and cruise lines, come to the next SABLA meeting, meet with Bob, and he'll use his vast cruising experience to set you on a straight path!

At the February luncheon we had guys like **Jim Byrd, Chuck Blogin, Gene DeCrona, Lou Ritter, and Kenny Gillespie** from Del Webb' Sun City in Lincoln! Where were you? We didn't see you!

And in March you missed Lottery Agent **Glenn Lewis** who was activated in the Reserves and sent to Iraq. A great guest speaker that gave us some personal insight to the "goings-on" in the war in that country. **Ed Lewandowski** took his place at his Sacramento office while he was on active duty for that year! Ed is still doing part-time security work for the Lottery. He often travels to San Antonio, to guard security concerns when Lottery tickets are being printed.

So Ed's still working. What about you? What are you doing??

And guess who's going to be our speaker for April?? None other, than our own **Bob Keel**!!

Bob has a series of seven tapes of the LAPD. The grouping starts with the City of L.A. when it was just a mere pueblo!! We probably won't get to see them all this one session, but after he's finished cruising, he'll come back for another session!

So get off the couch, and bring yourself – and a friend if you want, and come to this month's luncheon, and see what Bob has to offer! If you don't have this set of tapes, and I don't – come and see what it's all about. Bob is a very good speaker, and he needs an audience!! So please come!! Just kidding now!!

Everybody had been at February's luncheon for about an hour, when in walks **Tony Baldassano**, looking as "fit as a fiddle," as they used to say – in the old days!

Tony is recovering nicely since his quad heart bypass in December! He

looks great! The fact that he was an hour behind the rest of us is okay. He's retired!! That's what retirees do! Take your time!

We had a surprise visit from **Carl Olsen**, retired from LAPD in '93. Carl worked for the Feds for a while, and now works for the California Gaming Commission, I think in SoCal. That's because he did say that he lives in Cerritos. So many of us worked other jobs, after leaving LAPD. It must be the excitement of just working. Huh??

Gene DeCrona and wife **Bonnie** went to Vegas for a pleasure trip. They had not been there in 10 years, and couldn't get over the changes that had been made in the décor of the new hotels, etc. He said they thought it has been a beautiful change. And Gene. You gotta take Bonnie more than every 10 years!!

We received a report that **Ray Lauritzen** is now in a nursing home, and that his and **Margy's** home in Orangevale, a Sacramento suburb, is for sale! Ray is a Charter member of SABLA. He's been a BIG supporter of SABLA down through the years. Contact Hoy Key for his address and phone number!

Now back to the February luncheon! We had a great speaker! One of our own! **Mike Brandt, #13707**. See!! We got some young guys!

Anyway, Mike just retired again. From Health Net Medical Security! He says he's finished! Unless "somethin" good comes along!

But Mike's presentation wasn't about security and Police work and etc.

He has a amazing hobby! In fact he actually has two hobbies. Mountain climbing first, then marathon running to stay in shape!!! After listening to him, looking at his photos, it would appear that he has been everywhere!! And he has done some absolutely amazing things. He recently competed in the Tiberias Marathon, which was run by the Sea of Galilee. Upon returning home, Mike was certified as a member of the Seven Continents Club. He was only the 119th person in the world to have completed a marathon on all seven continents! He has also completed his mountain climbs on all seven continents. There are less than a dozen people, including Mike, who have completed that goal!!

He's been up the side of Kilimanjaro, a 19,300 foot climb in East Africa. He's been up Mt. McKinley in Alaska twice! 18,000 feet high at the top! He was in Argentina and it was 23 miles to the base camp.

In the Antarctica Marathon, he was at the camp for two weeks. In Australia, there are only small mountains. He tried Mt. Everest but got tired of waiting for storms to subside, so they could climb!

I'll tell you. If you weren't there, you really missed a special! Mike's presentation, mixed with a little humor made for a great luncheon! You shoulda been there too!

Speaking of luncheons, we next meet for the SABLA luncheon to be on **April 14 at Friends Restaurant**. It's at Hwy 50 and Zinfandel, 1130hrs. And money for lunch. This is not a freebie, or a half-price spot!! Bar is open.

Be good to each other there. We need and love each and every one of you!

Old Blue Running Team

by Mike McKean

For our February run we had the rain turned off for just enough hours so the runners could stay dry.

Feb. 6, was a beautiful day, for the 3 hours we were in Griffith Park. We had an excellent turnout of runners and support personnel.

CO Captain **Chuck McTaggart** was present, while CO Captain **Mel Sandvig** was off running another marathon. He is approaching number 120.

The runners present were **Ron Hodges, Danny Staggs, Phil Booth, Ron McCall** (all the way from the Reno area), **Mike Arroyo, Gene Peterson, and Jay Hernando**.

Support personnel present were **George Beck, Rudy deLeon, Corky**

Rochlitz, Virginia Van Houtte, Diane Harber, Mike McKean and Mike Melancon.

Ron McCall once again volunteered to assist anyone in the Reno area with the shoveling of snow. We had to explain to Ron about wet cold and dry cold. While it wasn't really cold it was wet and that the wet was from the frequent rains we'd been having here in beautiful Southern California.

Our final run is scheduled for Sunday, April 3, (daylight saving time begins) at 8 a.m. at the usual location, behind the Griffith Park Rangers Headquarters Buildings. We encourage you to come on out and give us a hand or just watch and join in on the "tall tales that get told."



The Downey Thursday Breakfast Bunch

(1st row L-R): Art Ramirez, Paul Mize, J.J. Knott, Mickey Meharg, Robin Welborn.
(2nd row L-R): Jim Shea, Bob Fredrickson, Harold Higgins, Mathew Hunt.
(3rd row L-R): Hal Dolan, Maurice Rainey, Bob Drees, Bob Kosier, Mike Dwyer.
Not in photo: Bob Wright, Jim Williamson, Charlie Dahlberg, Chuck Uerritt.

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23RD ANNUAL LAPD LAS VEGAS REUNION

The 77th Street Division Alumni Association will be hosting a reunion of ALL LAPD officers, ACTIVE AND RETIRED, from ANY division, to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 7, 8 & 9, 2005.**

PACKAGE: Three days, two nights; hospitality room (hosted bar, snacks, and lunch); raffle tickets; hotel/casino discount coupon book; show tickets for two; and sit-down dinner. Dress: Casual.

CUTOFF DATE: May 1, 2005

INFORMATION, CALL:

Al Fried, (702) 269-7627

Bob Carleton, (928) 680-4308

Rolph Lucke, (909) 597-1653

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Call Dick McCutcheon, (702) 260-3939 for information.

More Retirement News on next page

Classified

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A-5

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G00-02

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A-12

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F-17

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D-0503

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L01-02

Las Vegas Condo Rental

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D-0501

Mexican Gateway

Your Choice: Acapulco, Puerto Vallarta, Nuevo Vallarta, Puerto Penasco, Rivera Maya (Cancun). 1 or 2 weeks. 2 Bedroom, 2 bath Condo. 5 star resort. Check it out at www.mayanpalace.com.mx. \$175.00 per night. Spa, Golf, Babysitting, much more. (661) 259-3117.

B05-01

Real Estate for Rent

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2+2 completely furnished, and sleeps 6. Watch surfers, and dolphins from your patio, swimming pool, BBQ area and 110 golf courses within minutes. Weekly rates. Steve Wesselink. (760) 922-3729.

L04-04

OCEAN FRONT, KAHANA SUNSET, MAUI

The 1 + 1 at Kuleana sleeps 4 and has only a palm tree between you and the ocean. Lots of amenities including tennis courts. The 2 + 2 at Kahana Sunset has a family friendly safe 100 yard wide private beach cove. From either units' lanais enjoy the Ocean and the sunsets over the Pacific (or the whales from November thru May). Each comes "turn key" equipped. Prices vary with the unit and the season, with a low of \$100/ and a high of \$160/night. Photos available online. Call us at (818) 831 0844, or email at bookemdano@inreach.com.

G02-03

Palm Springs Condo

1 bdm, 1 ba, w/ add'l queen size sofa bed. Fully furnished and equipped w/ TV, VCR, A/C, microwave, etc. Panoramic mountain view w/ 10 pools, spas and tennis courts. Day \$65, wk \$350 and mo \$1,100. 714-995-6995

L01-05

Real Estate for Rent

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K04-01

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B03-01

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Cedar City, Utah. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 4180 sq. ft., finished basement, shop/3 car garage. Ski & shop nearby. Cent A/C-Loads of custom extras \$350,000 John Balicki 714-992-6841

D-0502

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ADVERTISING POLICY

Advertising, classified and display, is subject to the approval of the Editor,
the Los Angeles Police Protective League Board of Directors,
and/or the Blue Line Review Committee.

Display Ads

The deadline is always the 6th of the month prior to publication. (For example, March 6th is the deadline for the April issue.) For ad rates, ad sizes, and photograph line screen information, please telephone Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc. at (818) 558-1010.

Classified Ads

Classified advertisers must be members of the LAPPL, and advertising may be for sale or rental of personal items ONLY. All new ads or ad changes should be typed or legibly hand-

written and submitted on or before the deadline date (the 6th of the month prior to issue, i.e.: March 6th is the deadline for the April issue) in the attention of Mark Deitch, The Thin Blue Line, 4444 Riverside Drive, Suite 202, Burbank, CA 91505. Ads or ad changes will not be taken over the phone. Please include a check or money order payable to The Thin Blue Line and a note indicating the number of months you wish your ad to be published. Rates for members of the LAPPL are \$10 per month for every 35 words.

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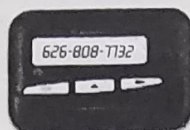
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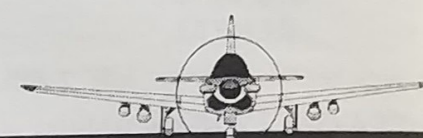
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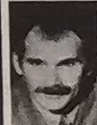
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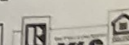


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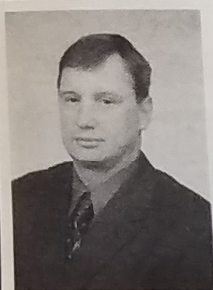
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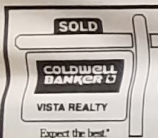
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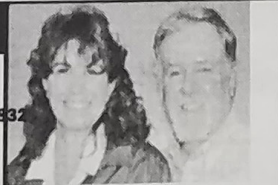
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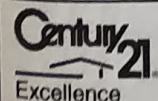
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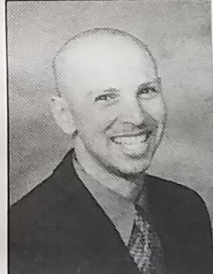


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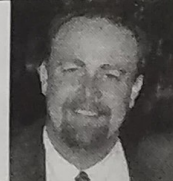
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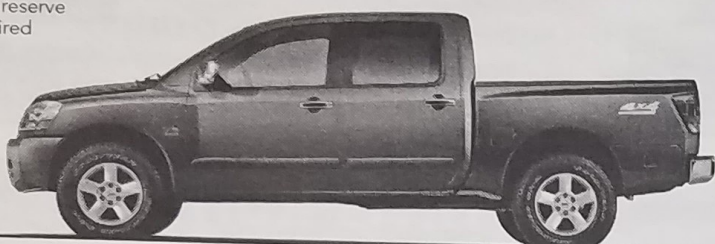
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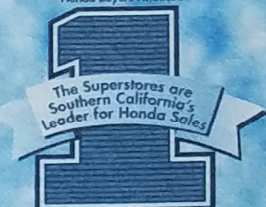
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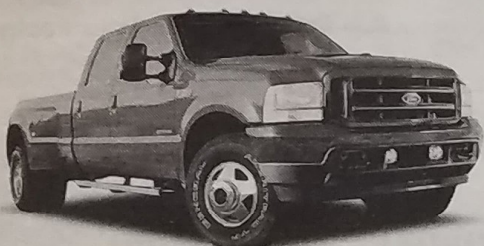
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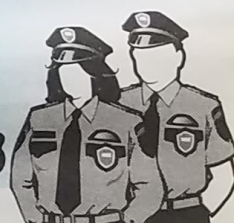
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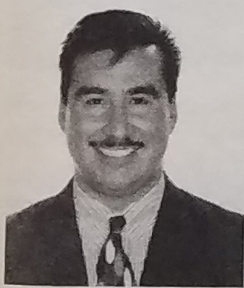
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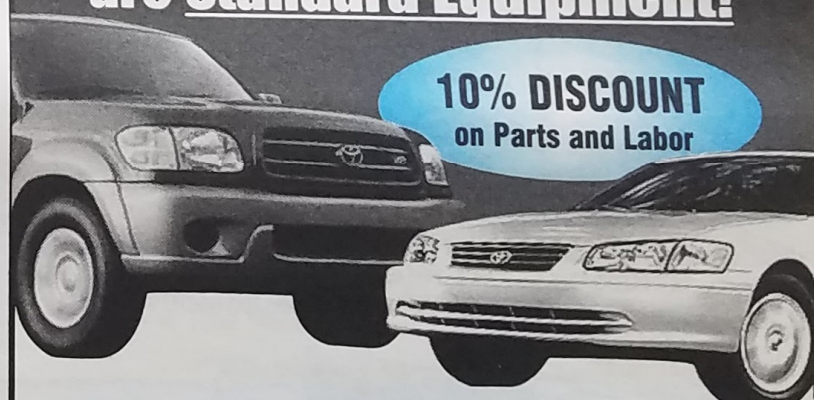
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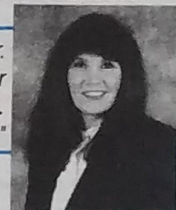
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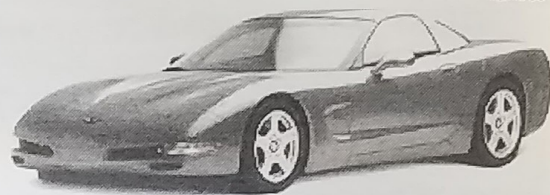


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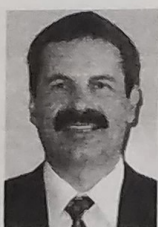
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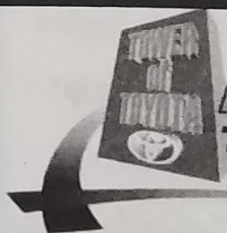
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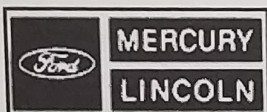
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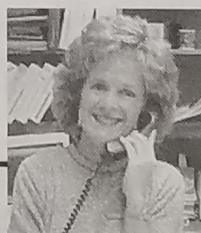
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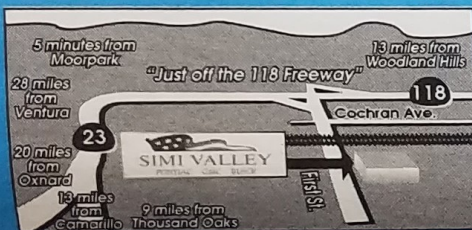
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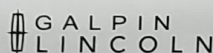


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